

# Chemical Weekly

VOL. XXXIV

AUGUST 22, 1989

NO. 50

## THE SYMBOL OF PURITY IN INDUSTRIAL SOLVENTS



- COSMETICS
- ELECTRONICS
- SURFACE COATINGS
- DRUGS & PHARMACEUTICALS



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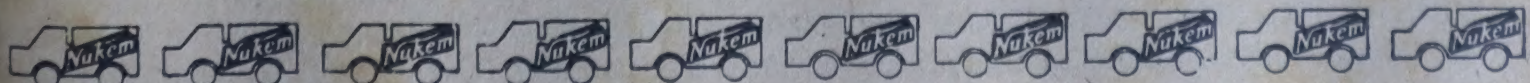
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when  
spent**

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when  
it comes  
to recovery  
there's  
none  
quite  
like  
us.**

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and return them in the  
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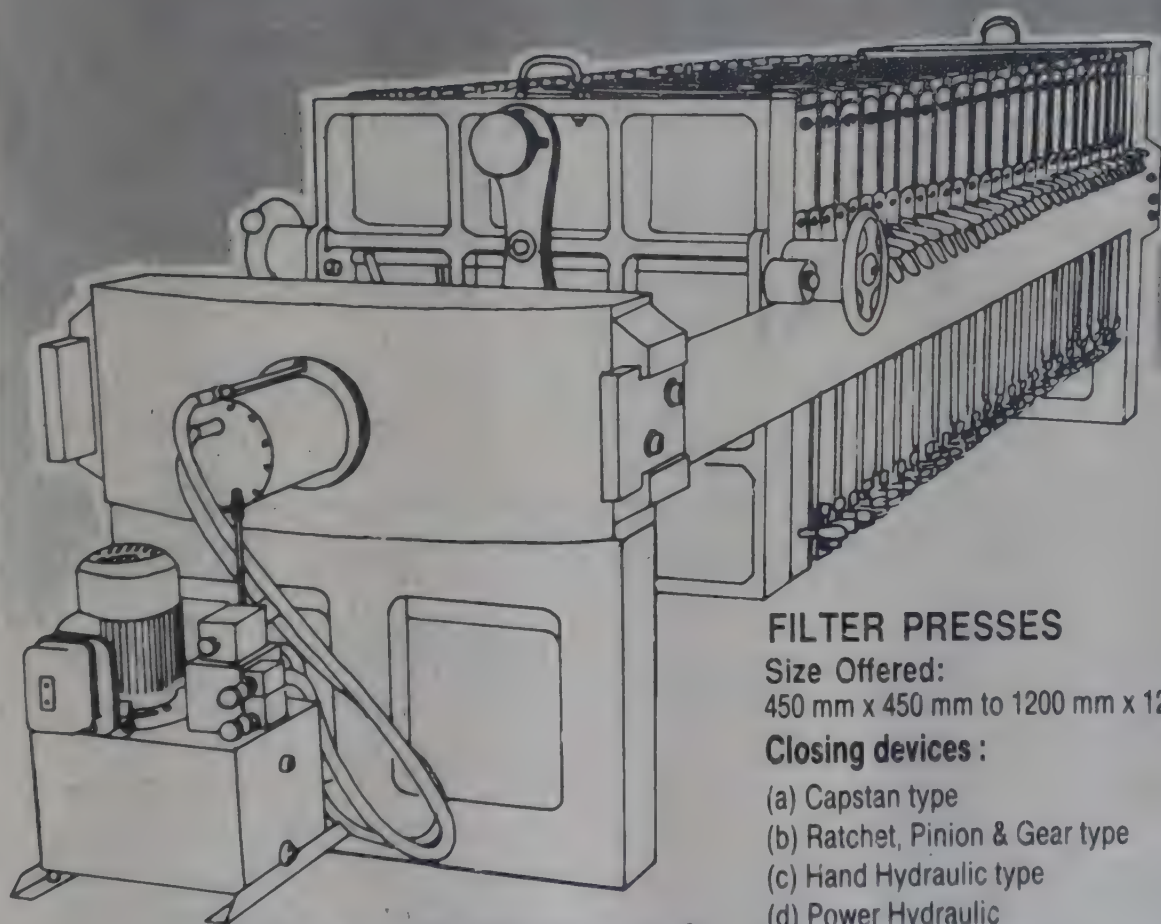
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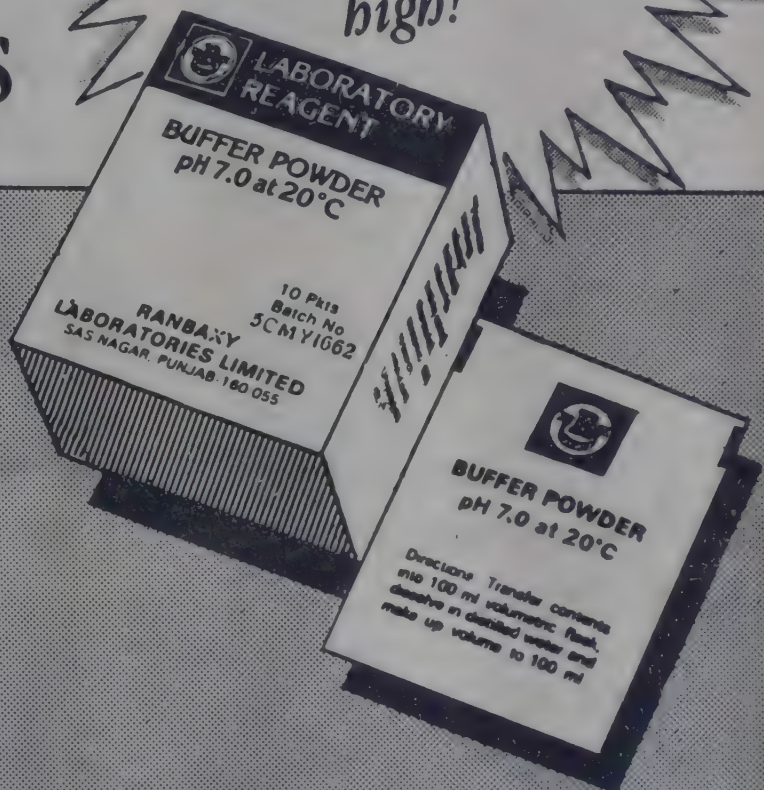


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# RANBAXY introduces Buffer Powders

*In unique,  
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satchets—that keep  
the powder dry &  
the accuracy  
high!*

the innovation  
over tablets  
the world is  
switching to!



Ranbaxy now offers for the first time in India buffer salts in powder form. Buffer powders have gained widespread acceptance in the developed countries and are gradually replacing the use of buffer tablets. Moisture proof satchets keep the material dry and free flowing leading to greater accuracy. Ranbaxy's buffer powders are available for pH 4.0, 7.0 and 9.2.

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P.E.G.	600	P.E.G.	6000
P.E.G.	1000	P.E.G.	8000

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70% ACTIVE**

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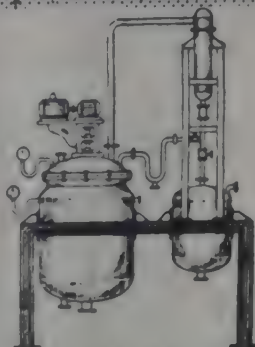
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When you are  
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Machineries....

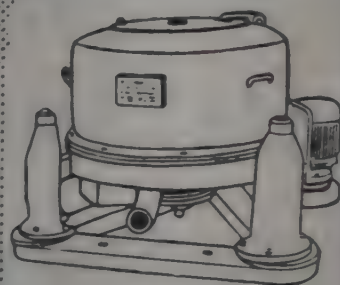
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at this



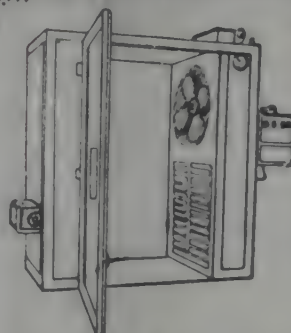
**Rajesh**



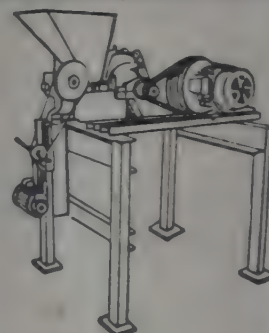
DISTILLATION PLANT



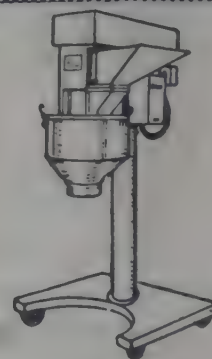
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HYDRO EXTRACTOR,



HOT AIR DRIER



PULVERIZER



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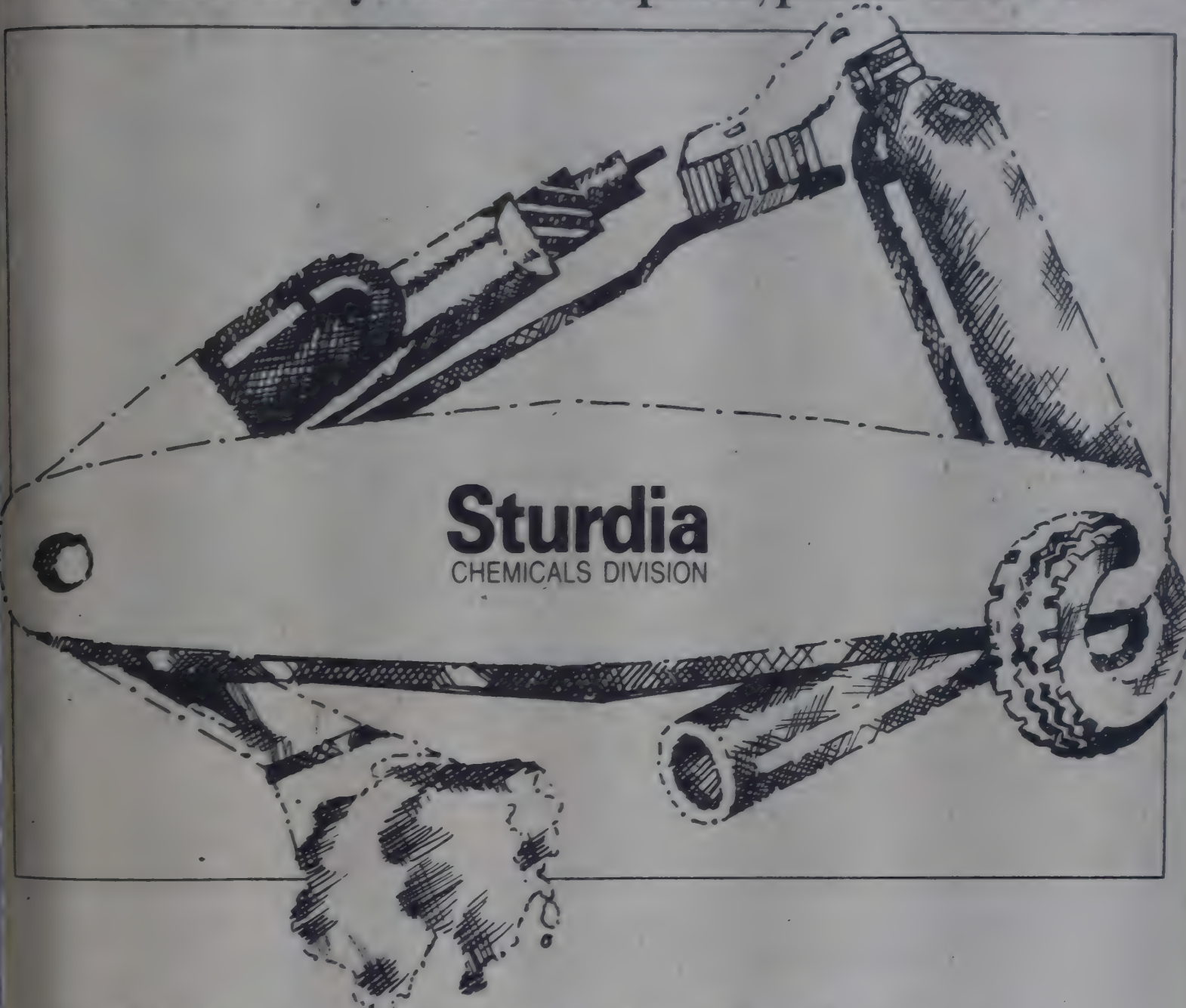
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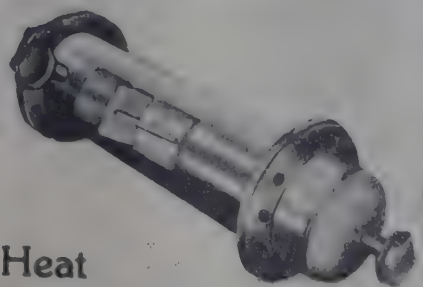
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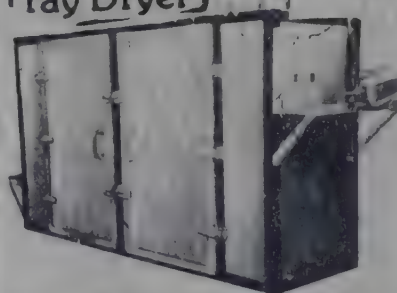


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# CHEMICAL WEEKLY

VOL. XXXIV

AUGUST 22, 1989

NO. 50

## HERALDING THE 21st CENTURY - 26 (a) Global Ecology on the Brink

Ecology can be defined as a study of the relationship between organisms and their environment. Ecology has still to find answers to some fundamental questions. What, for instance, keeps oxygen at its remarkably constant level of around 21% in the atmosphere, or prevents the seas becoming saltier each year as they receive a new burden of minerals from the constant erosion from the land? Is there some chance mechanism at play that enables organisms to adapt in time through the basic mechanisms of evolution to fundamental changes in the environment? Or, on the other hand, could the planet somehow be alive in the sense that this veneer of life on its surface, like the physiological mechanisms in an organism, somehow regulates the flow of nutrients in the system, restoring imbalances and controlling temperature?

Living organisms, though subject ultimately to the same laws, are deemed essentially separate from the environment in which they are reacting to it and, through the laws of Darwinian natural selection, adapting as best as possible to it, but affecting it superficially and ephemeraly. Life therefore may be seen as a kind of skin with a continuous grip on the surface of the Earth, to whose vagaries it has to adapt if it has to continue to survive; truly a struggle for existence.

With the move out into space, the ultimate manifestation of a new worldview is already emerging, we have left the Earth and instead of looking back to see how beautiful she is, and how we are a part of her, we see Earth merely as a place from which to conquer the universe. Inherent in our culture is a modern evolutionary theory, a distortion of Darwin's great vision: the notion that living organisms are in deadly competition with another, scrambling for limited resources, the ultimate goal being to leave behind a successful progeny. Paradoxically it was the search for life on Mars that gave answers to such earthly conundrums. Infra red telescoping from Earth revealed that Mars atmosphere was dominated by carbon dioxide and that the composition of the gases on Mars strongly suggested that Mars was lifeless.

The process of life would change the chemical composition of the atmosphere so as to render it recognisably different from the atmosphere of a lifeless planet. By comparison, the Earth has an extraordinary atmosphere, far removed from chemical equilibrium and apparently kept in that state from one year to the next. Thus, whereas Mars has 95%, Earth has 0.03% of carbon dioxide. Similarly sharp differences are found when comparing the planetary compositions of nitrogen and oxygen. Mars has 2.7% of its atmosphere composed of nitrogen and Venus 3.5%. Earth on the other hand has 78%. And while Mars has 0.13% oxygen and Venus has just traces, Earth has 21%. Equally surprising, the Earth's atmosphere has some

methane, while the other two planets have none. In essence, the Earth's atmosphere contains oxidizing and reducing gases at the same time. For instance, methane reacts in sunlight with oxygen to produce carbon dioxide and water vapour, and unless methane were constantly introduced into the atmosphere it would soon vanish. For the balance to be maintained some 500 million tonnes of methane must get into the atmosphere each year and 2,000 million tonnes of oxygen to make up that lost in oxidizing the methane. Both those gases are the metabolic products of living organisms, either of methanogenic bacteria or of photosynthesizers.

If Earth were a dead planet and there was no life to inject specific gases into the atmosphere, then knowing the likely outcome of chemical interactions between the atmosphere, rocks and water, the atmosphere would have a similar composition to that of Mars and Venus, with carbon dioxide predominating with neither oxygen or methane and with a small percentage of nitrogen. Just as significant, the surface temperature of Earth without life would lie between that of Venus and Mars. Moreover, it would be uncomfortably hot for life as we know it. Thus, whereas Venus has an average surface temperature of 459°C, and Mars 53°C, Earth without life would have a surface temperature of 290°C  $\pm$  50°C. With life, contemporary Earth has an average surface temperature of 13°C (55.4°F).

This spectacular difference between a burning hot, boiling planet and one with comfortable temperatures for life led the ecologist to the conclusion that life itself has evolved the capacity to regulate the exchange of heat between the Earth's surface and outer space. The process by which life managed to dump carbon dioxide was part of an extraordinary revolution in the then-existing biochemical repertoire of living organisms. Central to it was photosynthesis, involving the capture of light energy to break the strong chemical bonds that bound oxygen to hydrogen and to carbon. Prior to photosynthesis, the first cells that had come into existence on Earth probably derived sufficient energy from the abundant organic chemicals lying around but there were undoubted limits to the quantities of living biomass that could be supported on such nutrients. Photosynthesis linked life to an abundant inexhaustible source of energy in the sun.

If the consumption of carbon dioxide in photosynthesis had been simply a one-way process, then in a matter of a few million years the blanket essential then for keeping the planet warm would have gone. Earth would have been plunged into an inhospitable, frozen state, bringing much of life to a short-lived end. However, just as bacteria such as the cyanobacteria had discovered how to tap and



exploit the sun's energy, other bacteria evolved ways of scavenging and decomposing the excretions and corpses of the photosynthesizers. In a world without free oxygen those decomposers produced methane and carbon dioxide, both of them greenhouse gases, thereby helping to maintain some balance between nutrient and energy requirements and the retention of a greenhouse blanket. The successors of those methane-producing bacteria exist today in the methanogenic bacteria which survive in oxygen free environment such as swamps, septic tanks and in herbivorous animals.

Though oxygen was released, once photosynthesizing organisms began using carbon dioxide as a source of carbon for building up organic structures and providing energy, in the Archean era, it was immediately mopped up by sulphides, iron, ammonium, hydrogen and other reducing agents that were initially present in substantial quantities. Indeed, it was probably crucial for life at the beginning that free oxygen was lacking, otherwise few organic chemicals would have survived long enough for incorporation and use by the first tentative organisms. Finally, some 2,300 million years ago, sufficient quantities of oxygen built up to the point when oxygen could escape freely into the atmosphere. That had a two-fold consequence: first, it hastened the evolution of respiration whereby organisms could use oxygen to metabolize carbohydrates completely down to water and carbon dioxide, thus enabling a far more efficient use of resources; and secondly, by its readiness to form water ( $H_2O$ ) it prevented the further escape of vast quantities of hydrogen into outer space, a process which if it had continued as during the anoxic period would have left the planet as arid as both Venus and Mars were to become.

Undoubtedly organisms have shown themselves to be extraordinarily opportunistic, evolving with great rapidity mechanisms that would enable them to exploit new potential habitats in the environment. But, as we have begun to glimpse, life in its entirety had a profound impact on the environment, transforming it completely. Thus the evolution and the development of the planet into the multi-hued sphere that we have seen projected onto our television screens has been a consequence of life, not apart from it.

GAIA, is the Greek name for the Goddess of Earth. Gaia hypothesis came to be formulated after a study of the atmosphere of a dead planet Mars. In principle the hypothesis stated that the Earth has remained a comfortable place for living organisms, for the entire 3,500 million years since life began, despite a considerable increase in the heat output from the sun. Moreover, the atmosphere, despite being composed of an unstable mixture of reactive gases, oxygen and methane for instance, retains remarkable constancy at levels that appear to suit the high metabolic needs of today's organisms. The claim is that we live on "the best of all possible worlds" with living organisms actively and right from the beginning keeping the planet fit for life. Furthermore, the Gaia hypothesis sees the evolution of the species of living organisms so closely coupled with the evolution of their physical and chemical environment that together they constitute a single and indivisible evolutionary process.

In fact, the Gaia hypothesis took on a more complete form as a consequence of the support it received from the eminent biologist Lynn Margulis. Her major work has been to show that symbiosis and cooperation among organisms has always been integral to successful existence, as well as a spur to evolution. Indeed, many of the cellular components essential to cell function in multicelled eukaryote organisms such as mammals and trees -- for instance, the mitochondria for carrying out the oxidation pathway for carbohydrate metabolism, or the plastids for photosynthesis -- appear once to have been free-living bacteria that, following a period of close symbiosis, became wholly incorporated into another organism.

The implication that life is bountiful and rich not simply because it has luckily found a suitable planet but because it has used the

special resources of the Earth to create a planet capable of harbouring living forms, has evoked sharp criticism from many other scientists. Their immediate reaction to the Gaia hypothesis is that planetary self regulation would require foresight and planning the part of living organisms. For instance, the Canadian molecular biologist Ford Doolittle fails to see how the global altruism needed to regulate the Earth's surface temperature or the salinity of the sea could ever have evolved through the cold, dispassionate mechanism of natural selection. However, far from being a half-baked theory, the Gaia hypothesis has proved to be eminently testable. Thus, the control of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is brought about through life affecting the rate at which rocks are weathered. Carbon dioxide in the form of the mild acid, carbonic acid, in fact acts with calcium silicate in rocks forming calcium bicarbonate and silicic acid, both of which are soluble and move through groundwater to streams and rivers and eventually to the sea. Burrowing organisms, such as soil bacteria, worms, termites, and trees and other plants through their extensive root systems both bring and release carbon dioxide in close proximity to soil and rocks, thereby enhancing the rate of weathering. Meanwhile, in the sea, marine organisms such as corals and algae take up calcium bicarbonate and use it to make their shells. When they die the shells fall to the bottom and gradually build up as sediment into limestone mountains. The movement of the Earth's crust in tectonic plate movement may then force the limestone deposit out of the sea so that it forms land. Though very much of a conjecture at this stage, it is possible that limestone formation enhanced if not brought about tectonic plate movement by exerting downward pressure on the edge of continental shelf causing one to subduct under the other. Moreover, limestone acts as flux material, lubricating the movement of crustal material. It is surely of relevance that while Earth, Venus and Mars have tectonism, only Earth appears to have a well-established tectonic plate movement.

The burial of carbon dioxide as limestone, while affecting Earth's heat balance, would not per se have any effect on oxygen levels. That came about as a result of photosynthesis and the burial of carbonaceous matter as in fossil fuels. At present about 100 billion tonnes of carbon are buried each year, equivalent to the release of 133 million tonnes of free oxygen gas to the air. Not that the content of oxygen in the atmosphere is increasing, since there are plenty of sinks for mopping up any excess: volcanic material, for instance, or reduced materials in soils. In fact, as much as 90% of the products of photosynthesis are consumed by oxygen-breathing consumers, leaving just 2.5% for anaerobes such as methanogenic bacteria. It would appear that the amount of carbon buried each year has been steady throughout life's history. Therefore one must assume that in the Archean, anoxic organisms such as the methanogens consumed most of the products of photosynthesis, but that as free oxygen built up in the environment the place of such organisms was taken over by respiring consumers.

In the last 700 million years, oxygen has been at its present relationship between carbon dioxide and oxygen levels in the atmosphere. The amount of carbon dioxide now left in the atmosphere if not replaced, would provide green plants with only a few years' supply of photosynthetic precursor. Therefore without the consumers to burn off the surplus oxygen and generate carbon dioxide, the world of green photosynthesizing plants would be short-lived. Nevertheless, plants have embarked on a plethora of different strategies to prevent themselves being totally consumed, including the production of spines, toxic alkaloids or even of extraordinary relationships with protectorants. Thus once again a balance is maintained and one which is self regulatory in character, indeed we are not needed to give a thought as to whether air would still be breathable, rather we have accepted it for long as a fact of life. But one wonders today -- how far much longer?  
(To be concluded) -- T.P.S. RA



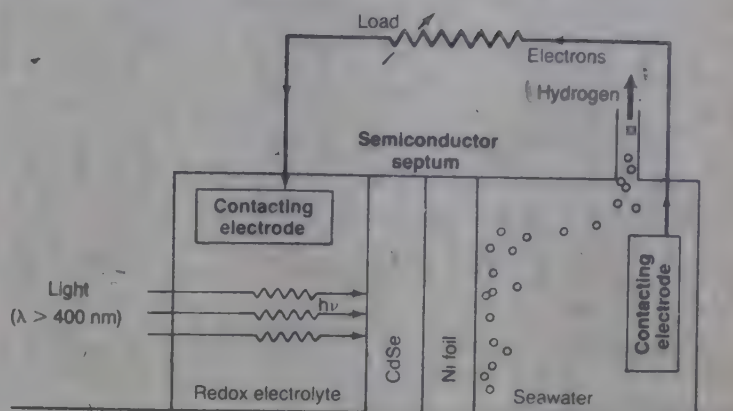
# CHEMARENA

S.L. VENKITESWARAN

## Hydrogen from Sea Water

A unique way of producing hydrogen from sea water through a photochemical cell was reported from Michigan State University scientists at the recent Solar Energy Conference held in Denver, USA. The green plant uses a chlorophyll pigmented bilayer lipid membrane to separate two aqueous phases. The light on the irradiated side of the membranes causes electrons and holes to be separated bringing about chemical oxidation and reduction on opposite sides of the membrane followed by a series of further reactions which do not need light. What is done to mimic this reaction is to use pigmented artificial bilayer lipid membranes or a semiconductor septum cell. This cell uses a sturdy inorganic membrane in place of a fragile organic one. The semiconductor septum electrode consists of a n-type polycrystalline selenide deposited on nickel foil. Two aqueous layers, of ferro/ferricyanide and sodium hydroxide are the two sides of the membrane. Metal electrodes in each compartment provide the electric contact. A sketch of the cell is given in the figure.

Irradiation of the cadmium selenide side induces electron-hole separation within the layer and makes electrons available on the dark side for reduction and contacting electrodes



Semiconductor septum plays key role in photochemical cell that produces hydrogen

complete the circuit. Voltages of 1.6 V and 40 million amp. per square cm have been obtained. For hydrogen production the solute is different on the two sides of the septum membrane. The dark side is filled with sea water and hydrogen is evolved from the  $H^+$  ions. The holes move to the cadmium selenide/electrolyte interface where they oxidise ferro-cyanide to ferricyanide. The equivalent of energy realised is said to be a good 10% of the incident energy. Much more remains to be done before any commercial possibilities can be examined. (Ref. C.E. News)

## Catalysts for hydroformylation

Hydroformylation or the oxo reaction of adding carbon monoxide and hydrogen to an olefine to produce an aldehyde is an important commercial process to produce alcohols by further reduction of the aldehyde group -- or oxidation to the carboxylic acid. The traditional process using nickel carbonyl catalyst under high pressures has been greatly improved by using precious metal catalysts. Now a new method or catalyst system of Supported Aqueous Phase Catalysts (SAPC) has been developed by Virginia Polytechnic Institute, USA.

The SAPC uses organo metallic catalysts that are dissolved in an aqueous film on the surface of a hydrophilic solid support. This film is in contact with an organic phase containing the reactant. Heterogenous catalysis occurs in the pores of the support at the organic - inorganic interface. The problem of recovering the high cost precious metal from the conventional method (a homogeneous catalyst system) and working it to the active form is avoided by the SAPC

system which has a heterogenous catalyst support to keep the reaction going. SAPC catalysts are made by coating a high surface area solid support such as silica with a water soluble metal-organic complex. The water phase is then evaporated leaving the complex distributed over the surface of the support. Water films are then condensed from the vapor phase on the surface of the support in a highly controlled manner. A water film coating results over the metal-catalyst complex. The pores in the support are open and accessible. Reactions take place at the interface between the phases and are diffusion controlled. The catalyst is immobilised on the SAPC with large interfacial areas because of the porous character of the supports. Better selectivity between the normal and iso aldehydes is also possible. Many reactions have been carried out such as on oleyl alcohol to the aldehydes (at the double bond) using cyclohexanes as the organic phase. This novel heterogenous catalyst support system may develop into a good alternative to the present homogenous catalyst system. (Ref. C.E. News)



## SCP -- Single Cell Protein

SCP or Single Cell Protein for feed purposes never took off except in emergencies. The supply of cattlefeed has been adequate and at prices which cannot be matched by SCP based on yeast or *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* grown on waste or by-product carbohydrates in Europe. The ability to use hydrocarbons as a feed again raised high hopes in the light of "oil shock" of the Seventies, but again ended up in failure as a commercial proposition. British Petroleum had high hopes to use micro organisms to gobble up the paraffin components of middle distillates to leave a better fraction for diesel fuels besides yielding a coproduct protein for sale. Even a large scale operation was set up in France and was soon wound up.

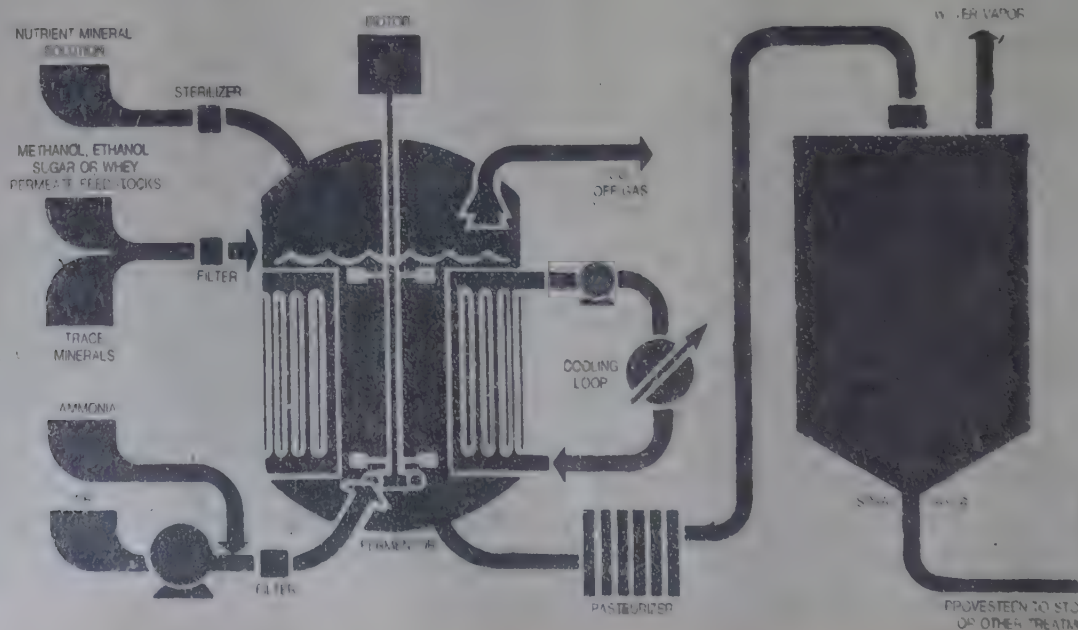
ICI had higher hopes with their "Pruteen" using a very novel design for the fermenter with more effective air/media contact and consequent lower power requirements. Methanol was tried as the substrate instead of difficult to handle methane gas but nothing could lead to proteen as a viable proposition and the fermenter was shut down and is off and on used for other products such as microbial polymers. There has been a lot of publicity on microbes which can feed on and digest various hydrocarbons and the concept of genetic engineering to produce a master microbe with the ability to use all the different types of hydrocarbons (aliphatic and aromatic) first hit the headlines. But this has only resulted in a method to tackle oil spills on the seas or elsewhere but not a commercial viable SCP as a source of protein.

There is a new trend to promote SCP not as a bulk protein feed supplement but as a speciality product for humans and animals. This is based on work by Phillips Petroleum Co. who have developed the technology for such a product under the name "Provesta". Now Provesta Corp., Bartlesville, a Phillips subsidiary has commissioned a plant for "Provesteen"

which has higher protein and ash and much less lipids and carbohydrates than the conventional SCP. Some of the problems associated with the SCP process have been resolved -- separation of cells, taste appeal as feedstuff for humans, toxicity problems etc. The process -- Provesta High Cell Density Fermenter (HCDF) -- has obtained top US Engineering Award for 1988 -- one of ten. It uses a strain of tomato yeast which needs no centrifuge to separate residual nutrients, dries to a high cell density mass directly as a spray. Methanol is the substrate with no other organic residuals as in the case of molasses. Fermentation is continuous and very efficient with high oxygen transfer rates -- 800 to 1000 millimols per liter per hour. Foam is not destroyed by chemicals but used to enhance oxygen transfer rate with mechanical breakers. Heat transfer is of special design to avoid fouling. Productivity claimed to be 3 times that of other SCP processes. Due to the very high cell density, separation is not required and only pasteurisation and drying. The plant uses a 25 KL fermenter to make 1500 tonnes a year. Provesta flavour is said to substitute for M.S.G. It can also be grown on whey. The product is said to sell for \$ 2.15 per pound -- no match for cake -- and sells for its special quality and flavour. It is to be examined if there is scope for such a high priced protein additive in our context.

An alternate product based on multi-cellular fungus has been developed by British Marlow Foods, joint venture of a bread producer and ICI. This is the fastest growing microbe and based on wheat starch and said to be "delicious to eat". ICI fermenter for Pruteen can turn out 20,000 tonnes if there is market. Prices in terms of protein is low for this product called "Quora" but this is not adequate until the stuff can end up as very palatable foodstuff.

(Ref. *Chem. Business*, June,





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## NOCIL expansion cost may rise to Rs. 2,000 crores

The cost of NOCIL's mega project for expansion of its ethylene capacity to 3 lakh tonnes at Thane may escalate to Rs. 2,000 crores, according to Mr. Arvind N. Mafatlal, chairman. The original estimate of the cost was Rs. 1,300 crores.

Although the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board and the department of environment has granted no-objection certificate and environmental clearance, the project is still being delayed as two writ petitions challenging the expansion of the existing industries in the Thane-Belapur area are yet to be decided by the Bombay High Court. These petitions are expected to be disposed of shortly. The company, in the meanwhile, is pursuing applications for expansion with the central government. The Central clearance is expected in a few months.

Mr. Mafatlal told shareholders at the annual meeting on August 9, that the company would be coming out with a proposal to raise finance for the project shortly after Central clearance. Although the details of the proposal are yet to be worked out there would be a bonus to the shareholders.

The company would be promoting two satellite units, one near Mysore and the other at Pitampur in Madhya Pradesh in view of the proposed expansion of its ethylene capacity. The project near Mysore will be an aromatic unit for the manufacture of aroma and perfumery chemicals. The technical and R & D support was provided by NOCIL for this project.

The Pitampur project will be for the manufacture of BOPP film. This plant is now in an advanced stage of implementation and is expected to go into production by the end of this year. Mr. Mafatlal said the company is giving a major thrust for exports. The company

has already achieved an export turnover of Rs. 12 crores in the first four months of the current year as against last year's export of Rs. 13.55 crores.

In the current year, the company's total export would touch Rs. 25 crores. The annual export would grow to a level of Rs. 100 crores soon, he said. Meanwhile, the company has received an industrial licence for the manufacture of two new pesticides namely phosphamidon and DDVP. The plants are ready and trial production has been successful and commercial production is expected to start soon.

The company also obtained a MRTP clearance for its seed business. As regards sales turnover in the current year, the company achieved a turnover of Rs. 120 crores in the first four months of the current year as against a turnover of Rs. 108 crores achieved in the same period of the previous year.

### RAJASTHAN PLANS PETRO-CHEM COMPLEX NEAR KOTA

Rajasthan is planning to set up a massive petrochemical complex with a capital outlay of Rs. 4,000 crores near Kota. Announcing this at Bombay recently, the Chief Minister of Rajasthan Mr. Shiva Charan Mathur, said his Government is currently working out the modalities with regard to channelising the availability of gas from Hazira. However, Mr. Mathur was quick to add that much would depend on the availability of gas as Rajasthan has already obtained the sanction for the setting up of a fertiliser plant of 1,300 tonnes capacity at Kota based on Hazira gas.

That apart, he said his Government has signed an agreement with the Neyveli Lignite Corporation to put up a 2,400 mw capacity power plant. Stating that his State has rich lignite deposits,

Mr. Mathur said that a fresh discovery of lignite deposits was expected to feed a power house with a capacity of 1,200 mw, apart from the 2,400 mw plant.

Dwelling on the improved power scenario in Rajasthan, he said: "We have stopped purchasing power from Madhya Pradesh and there has been no power cut in Rajasthan during the last 18 months". The commissioning of the fourth and fifth units at Kota ahead of schedule was explicit of the importance shown by the State to power generation, he stated. Rajasthan also gets its share of power from the national grid.

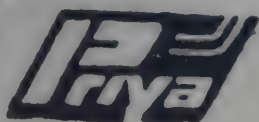
On nuclear power generation, Mr. Mathur said already two units are at Kota while a third unit is under construction and a fourth unit has been sanctioned by the Centre. In all, he stated, these units should generate nuclear power of 800-900 mw capacity. By the end of Ninth Plan, when setting up of additional nuclear power plants fructify, Rajasthan will generate about 2,900 mw of nuclear power, he said.

On Rajasthan's achievements, he said Bhilwara has developed into a major textile centre. Currently about 40 per cent of the country's synthetic yarn is being processed there and the expected turnover is more than Rs. 1,300 crore.

The State Government, which currently has offices in the four metropolitan cities for promoting tourism, has now decided to have integrated offices of RIICO (Rajasthan Industrial and Investment Corporation) in these cities where a single-window facility will be made available for industrialists, according to him.

In the above context, he said the Government has sought an acre of land in Bombay at Bandra on a reciprocal basis from the Maharashtra Government. In return, he said, Rajasthan would be willing to give land in Jaipur to them.





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## Caustic soda prices may fall

Caustic soda price, which shot up above the Rs. 7,000 per tonne level in recent months is expected to drop in early September when Gujarat Alkalies and Chemicals Ltd. (GACL) completes the changeover from mercury cells to membrane cell technology.

The steep price rise in recent times is attributed to disruption of supplies from GACL on account of the transition to membrane cells as well as reduced production from southern units hit by power cuts. Several units took advantage of the shortage to hike their quotations, to the detriment of the consuming industries.

GACL is a leading producer, accounting for a monthly output of about 10,000 tonnes. The change over to membrane cells will not only minimise pollution and reduce power consumption, but will enable the unit to step up its capacity with only marginal addition of balancing equipment. Some other leading producers like Standard Alkali are also planning to change to membrane cells as per the Government directive.

The demand too has been surging. Compared to last year's production of 8.52 lakh tonnes, this year's production is expected to exceed nine lakh tonnes. These figures are inclusive of exports. The industry sold 3.76 lakh tonnes during January-May this year, compared to 3.34 lakh tonnes during the corresponding period last year. The demand has been growing at the rate of eight to nine per cent a year. The demand for chlorine has also been surging and virtually no chlorine is being wasted today for want of buyers.

Exports, unthinkable only a decade ago, is picking up, thanks to a world shortage which has lifted the price to \$450 a tonne CIF. Last year, the industry exported 9,940 tonnes. The industry could have exported more but for power cuts in the south. As the export market is in South-East Asia, the major beneficiaries are south-based units like SPIC and DCW. During January-May this

year, exports amounted to 8,100 tonnes. As on June 1, the industry has export orders for another 9,000 tonnes.

Many units, especially in the south, are setting up captive facilities, to supplement power supplies from the national grid. No new caustic/chlorine unit for merchant sale is likely to come up in the future, except as part of petrochemical complexes, for captive use.

### RIL HIKES LAB PRICE, CUTS RATE FOR PTA

Reliance Industries Limited has raised the price of linear alkyl benzene (LAB) from Rs. 23,000 per tonne to Rs. 27,000. LAB is a basic raw material for detergents. RIL has reduced the price of PTA from Rs. 37,125 per tonne to Rs. 32,625. PTA is a basic raw material for the polyester industry.

The reduction in PTA price follows a directive from the government to DMT and PTA producers to bring down their prices in view of a fall in the price of paraxylene, which is the basic raw material for DMT/PTA. Earlier, Bombay Dyeing has lowered DMT price from Rs. 33,000 to Rs. 29,000 and IPCL and BPL from Rs. 32,000 to Rs. 29,000 per tonne.

DMT and PTA are the basic raw materials for the manufacture of polyester fibre, yarn and film. With the reduction in the prices of their basic raw materials, the government has now called a meeting of PSF and PFY producers at New Delhi to assess the possibility of bringing down the prices of fibre and yarn.

### DETERGENTS TO COST MORE

Detergent manufacturers are revising their prices following the increase in ex-factory price of linear alkyl benzene (LAB) from Rs. 23,000 to Rs. 27,000 per tonne, with effect from August 12. As major detergent producers have around one month's inventory, revised prices are expected to be charged on

goods to be produced from the second half of September. All producers are watching each other's moves as detergent market is extremely price sensitive. Price has been a major factor in Nirma's success story, and it continues to dominate the market despite Hindustan Lever's crude depiction of it as a hand-burning powder.

This the first time both Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) and Tamilnadu Petroproducts Ltd. (TPL) have jointly raised LAB price. Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd. (IPCL), the only other producer, has refrained from raising its quotation. IPCL is still marketing LAB produced more than seven months ago when an explosion forced closure of its plant. The plant is likely to be recommissioned in September/October. The delay in recommissioning is attributed to difficulties in procuring and transporting critical equipment from Europe.

Market reports say that "Wheel" Lever's green detergent powder prices in such a way as to compete with Nirma has carved out a chunk of the market but mainly at the expense of lesser known Nirma imitators. Consumers say that Wheel contains as much insoluble as any other crude powder.

The Reliance backed Sasa is picking up, after an initial lacklustre performance. The Lijjat group, which is promoting the brand in Maharashtra and Gujarat, is now wooing customers in Eastern India. Another promising brand is "Jaag", the grey powder with 18 per cent surfactant content (the same as Surf) but sold at almost half the price. Unlike Surf, Jaag does not contain colour nor is it spray-dried, factors which do not contribute to product performance.

TPL's detergent project in association with Henkel of West Germany is in the meantime making good progress. Called SPIC Fine Chemicals, the new venture will be the first in the country to produce phosphate-free detergents. Use of phosphate is banned in many advanced countries for environmental reasons.



## Sandoz to launch two new drugs

Sandoz India plans to launch Zaditen (Parlodel), the second and third largest-selling drugs of Sandoz worldwide, in the Indian market next year.

Zaditen is an asthma preventive, unlike conventional drugs which are administered after the onset of the disease. Parlodel, another Sandoz discovery, is used in the treatment of female reproductive disorders and Parkinson's disease. Other new Sandoz products include Calcitonin (for bone diseases) and Hydergine (for psycho-geriatric ailments).

Last year, Sandoz India launched pindolol, a drug which helps prevent rejection of kidney transplants. This is the Sandoz group's largest selling pharmaceutical product, with an annual sale of Rs. 500 million Swiss francs. The pindolol unit has now introduced pindolol (brand name Visken), a beta-blocker which lowers blood pressure while producing a beneficial effect on cholesterol levels, thus reducing the chances of heart attack. No major side effects have been reported.

According to Mr. V.R. Navelkar, head of pharmaceutical division, pindolol lowers blood pressure as effectively as conventional drugs like propranolol, but without their undesirable side effects. It does not increase cardiac output and does not increase peripheral resistance in the arteries, enabling free flow of blood. It raises HDL (beneficial) cholesterol and decreases the harmful LDL cholesterol. It has little or no effect on triglycerides, and has a favourable lipid profile.

This is the second beta-blocker being launched this year in the Indian market. Earlier, ICI India introduced atenolol (brand name Tenormin), which is the world's largest selling beta-blocker. According to Mr. A.W. Robinson of Sandoz Switzerland, increasing awareness of its lipid profile and other advantages has made pindolol a best seller in Scandinavia, Japan, and Australia.

Sandoz India also plans to diversify further into soya-based nutritional supplements for diabetics and other categories of patients. These will be promoted exclusively through doctors. The first product in the nutritional range, Prosan, has been well-received, according to Mr. Nevalkar.

Mr. J.P. Hayoz, Managing Director, said the company recorded a turnover of Rs. 130 crores, a 30 per cent increase over the previous year. Each of the three divisions (pharmaceuticals, dyes and chemicals and agrochemicals) contributed roughly one-third.

The pharma division, which made losses in 1987, is slowly coming out of the red. Turnover of all divisions in the first six months of 1989, at Rs. 75 crores, was higher by 30 per cent compared to the same period last year, he said. Exports have shown a steady increase, progressing from Rs. 7.8 crores in 1984 to Rs. 17.3 crores in

1988. Export orders worth Rs. 28 crores had been booked during the first six months of 1989.

### TN PROPOSES TO SET UP MOLASSES-BASED UNITS

The Tamil Nadu Govt. has drawn up a long-term project for starting molasses based chemical industries in the State, the Chief Minister, Mr. M. Karunanidhi said. Declaring open a Rs. 22-crore computerised sugar mill with a capacity of 2500 tonnes per day, he said molasses would become a surplus product in two years when seven new mills would start production and the capacity of 14 other mills would be expanded.

He said the State Government, on its own, had increased the list of backward areas to 105 from 35 even though the Centre did not agree to the proposal. Mr. Karunanidhi requested the Centre to expedite the Karur-Tuticorin broad gauge project and upgrade the Salem Steel plant into a full-fledged steel plant.

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## DRUGS &amp; PHARMACEUTICALS

**Rs. 175-crore export deals with USSR finalised**

Soviet Union has finalised deals for the import of about Rs. 175 crores worth of drugs and pharmaceuticals from India in the last few days, it is learnt. A team of officials from MED Export, the Russian agency for import and export of medicines, has been camping at Bombay since the first the week of August. Export deals are for both bulk drugs and formulations and many large and medium scale Indian drug companies have signed up the deals, according to informed sources.

Under the trade protocol signed with the Soviet Union early in April, USSR has already agreed to buy Rs. 198 crores worth of drugs and medicines from India this year. The deals finalised by MED Export now might be in addition to the purchase plan under the trade protocol. With the spurt in demand for drugs and pharmaceuticals from the USSR, total export of these items from India is expected to touch Rs. 900 crores exceeding the target of Rs. 680 crores fixed by the Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council for this year.

In 1988-89 the total export of drugs and pharmaceuticals from India was only Rs. 400 crores. Export circles at

Bombay said that the demand for drugs and pharmaceuticals from the USSR is expected to go up substantially in the coming years as well with a projected gap of Rs. 1,000 crores between current availability and demand in that country. A quantum jump in the export of drugs and pharmaceuticals to the US is also likely during the current year with the recent registrations of some drugs from India by the US food and drug administration.

Russia is also buying large quantities of detergents from India this year. It has already booked contracts for import of about Rs. 100 crores worth of detergents recently, the sources said. Under the trade plan provisions, USSR had earlier agreed to buy only Rs. 10 crores worth of detergents.

To meet the sudden spurt in export demand for detergents a leading detergent unit is understood to be setting up a new unit, to meet only the export demand. Two other items for which huge export demand from the USSR is expected are soaps and agrochemicals. Meanwhile the council has set an export target of Rs. 2,100 crores for chemicals, pharmaceuticals, dyes, detergents, agrochemicals, essential oils, crude drugs,

etc. for the current year as against export of Rs. 1,247 crores achieved the last year.

The sources said that export of products could even touch the Rs. crore mark during the current year. Exporting units are provided with adequate supplies of basic raw materials and other inputs. Many of the materials are currently under supply and exporting units are not to run to their full capacity.

**COST ACCOUNTING RULES TO BE APPLIED TO SMALL DRUG COMPANIES**

Drugs and pharmaceutical companies in the small sector whose products are subject to Price Control Order (PCO) will come under the purview of the Accounting Records (Formulation) Rules, 1988, as amended recently by the Department of Company Affairs.

This information was given by the Industry Minister, Mr. J. Vengal Rao, to members at a meeting of the inter-ministerial consultative committee held at his Ministry at N. Delhi. The amended rules, Mr. Rao said, "shall apply to every company engaged in the production, processing or manufacture of formulations except small-scale industrial undertakings".

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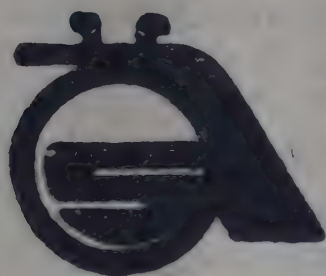
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## Bindal Agro to raise Rs. 500 crores

Bindal Agro Chem Limited has proposed to issue fully convertible bonds for Rs. 500 crores to finance its Rs. 675-crore Shahjahanpur (UP) gas-based fertiliser project. The issue would be made by the middle of October. Announcing the issue details at Bombay recently, Mr. Abhey Oswal, chairman, said that the project would be commissioned by September 1991. He is confident of ensuring a high return on equity capital that would be raised for the project because of the accrual of large share premium fund and the consequent low borrowings.

Mr. Oswal envisages an earning per share of over Rs. 10 from the very first year of operations despite the lowering of the return following recent changes in the fertiliser pricing formula. He said Bindal would be able to "at least maintain the current high rate of equity dividend of 50 per cent on the increased capital".

The company would be offering bonds of Rs. 200 each which would be converted into four equity shares of Rs. 10 each at a premium of Rs. 40 per share in phases. Mr. Oswal said that because of the management's ability to raise bonds and consequently equity shares at a high premium (400 per cent), the project would be profitable from the investor's point of view.

Explaining at length the financing pattern, Mr. Oswal has said that the government has fixed a uniform project cost of Rs. 675 crores for determining the subsidy for all the gas based fertiliser projects with uniform capacity of 1,350 tonnes of ammonia and 2,200 tonnes of urea per day. For the projects, the debt-equity ratio permitted is 2.5:1. Thus for a "normative" project, equity would account for Rs. 198 crores and loans for Rs. 497 crores for financing the project.

However, in the case of Bindal Agro, equity capital would be only Rs. 100

crores and premium — or reserves — would be Rs. 400 crores (on full conversion) and the borrowings would be limited to Rs. 195 crores. The present pricing formula envisages a return of 26 per cent (pre-tax) on equity and 14 per cent on loans thus offering an income of Rs. 121.13 crores on 90 per cent capacity utilisation. The income would increase to Rs. 144.10 crores on 100 per cent capacity utilisation. The return is fixed irrespective of the amount of equity capital and the consequent borrowings.

In the case of a "normative" project, the interest outgo would be Rs. 69.50 crores while that for Bindal Agro it is estimated lower at Rs. 27.30 crores in view of the low borrowings. Thus, pre-tax return for a "normative" project would be Rs. 74.60 crores while that for Bindal Agro it would be Rs. 116.80 crores. The minimum tax liability for Bindal Agro would be higher at Rs. 15 crores while that for the "normative" project it would be only about Rs. 8 crores. The net cash accrual, including depreciation (15 year basis) of Rs. 40 crores, is placed at Rs. 141.80 crores for Bindal against Rs. 106.60 crores for others.

Of the Rs. 500-crore bond issue, bonds of Rs. 100 crores would be offered to shareholders on a rights basis in the ratio of one bond for every 25 shares. Of the balance, bonds of Rs. 200 crores would be offered to the shareholders of Oswal group companies on preferential basis. Bonds worth Rs. 50 crores would be offered to NRIs, for Rs. 10 crores to agriculturists and for Rs. 24.75 crores to employees on preferential allotment basis.

The public issue would be for Rs. 115.25 crores. The management is planning to call for only half the amount on application and allotment of bonds and the balance would be called after about 18 months when the implementation of the project would be nearing

completion. In other words, the immediate issue would be for Rs. 250 crores, Mr. Oswal said.

The terms of conversion of bonds offered on a rights basis are better than those offered on preferential allotment and to the public. In the case of rights, a sum of Rs. 50 per bond would be converted into one equity share of Rs. 10 each at a premium of Rs. 40 per share after six months and the balance of Rs. 150 into three equity shares after 18 months from the date of allotment. In other cases, a sum of Rs. 50 per bond would be converted into one share after 18 months, another Rs. 50 into one share after 18 months and the balance of Rs. 100 into two more shares after 36 months from the date of allotment.

Mr. Oswal claimed that the Bindal project would be low cost and planned to save costs on construction and the larger use of indigenous labour and equipment. The company has appointed the government owned Projects and Development Industries Ltd. (PDIL) as a prime consultant for the execution of the entire complex. The company has assured the completion of the project in 24 months as against the normal period of 32 months for similar projects.

### GUJCHEM DISTILLERS

Gujchem Distillers India Ltd. has improved working results for the year ended March 1989. The directors have stepped up the dividend to Rs. 12 per share against Rs. 12 per share per year absorbing Rs. 16.99 lakhs against Rs. 12.74 lakhs.

During the year, total sales and receipts amounted to Rs. 11.58 crores against Rs. 7.39 crores earning a profit of Rs. 138 lakhs against Rs. 138 lakhs. After depreciation (Rs. 138 lakhs against Rs. 82.55 lakhs) and provisions, the pretax profit amounted to Rs. 41.99 lakhs against a profit of Rs. 76.65 lakhs.



## CONSIGNMENT TAX

**Panel mooted to study alternative**

The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM) has urged the Government to appoint an expert committee to suggest an alternative to the proposed consignment tax which could collect revenue without disturbing the regional imbalance or causing distortion in the existing pattern of inter-State trade.

The introduction of the Bill for levy of tax on consignment transfer should be deferred till the recommendations of the proposed committee are made available. Alternatively, the Bill should be referred to a select committee of Parliament as per the assurance given by the Finance Minister while presenting the Constitution Amendment Bill on the subject in 1987, so that trade, industry and the consumer get an adequate opportunity to put forward their views, a release said.

ASSOCHAM said that with the introduction of the consignment tax, investment flow to the smaller States which lacked large consumer markets or exclusive supply sources, would be totally stopped. For instance, in smaller States like Jammu and Kashmir, Haryana and Kerala, the manufacturers would find it difficult to bring in raw materials and to take out finished products at an extra cost of eight per cent. As a result, these States would become dependent on the larger States for supply of consumer goods.

The inflationary impact of the consignment tax, ASSOCHAM said, would be equally pernicious. Apart from the direct cascading effect of the tax on finished products and consequently on the exports, the tax would lead to fragmentation of capacities as it would be necessary to have separate manufacturing units in different States. ASSOCHAM said that consignment tax would also result in rampant smuggling and corruption at the State borders.

**PUBLIC SECTOR FERTILISER  
UNITS RUN UP LOSSES**

Many units of the public sector fertiliser corporations have incurred huge losses in 1988-89, according to the provisional accounts. Hindustan Fertiliser Corporation's Namrup-I and II have together incurred losses of Rs. 45.34 crores and Namrup-III Rs. 18.23 crores. Its Durgapur and Barauni units have shown losses to Rs. 53.62 crores and Rs. 42.61 crores respectively.

As regards the Fertiliser Corporation of India, its Sindri, Gorakhpur, Ramgundam and Talcher units have recorded losses of Rs. 21.75 crores, Rs. 19.08 crores, Rs. 26.43 crores and Rs. 66.34 crores respectively. National Fertiliser Limited's Bhatinda and Paradeep Phosphates plant have lost Rs. 7.24 crores and Rs. 7.92 crores

respectively. The losses in HFC and FCI plants have been attributed to low capacity utilisation on account of power and labour problems.

**RESOURCES: OIL SECTOR  
LIKELY TO EXCEED TARGET**

The Oil Industry plans not only to meet its own requirements from its resources but also to contribute to the general pool during the 8th Plan. The industry is expected to exceed the 7th Plan target for generating internal resources, the Petroleum and Natural Gas Secretary, Mr. H.K. Khan said in New Delhi while inaugurating the 5th Oil Industry Finance meet. He said the oil companies have offered to raise loans to meet the cost of their projects when the country is facing a resource crunch. Financial directors of oil companies will have to play an important role in ensuring that such performances are to the best advantage of the country, he said.

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## FACT closes ammonium chloride plant

The ammonium chloride plant of the Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT) has been closed. FACT is of the view that the plant cannot be recommissioned with the present condition of its structure. This was the only Central public sector unit producing ISI standard ammonium chloride.

However, there will be no effect of the closure of the plant on the price of ammonium chloride used for agricultural purposes and to the farmers at statutorily-controlled price.

FACT proposes to take up during the Eighth Plan revamp and rehabilitation schemes costing Rs. 472.4 crores. These include replacement of ammonia plant at Udyogamandal, phase II expansion of the NPK plant of the Cochin division, revamping of the urea plant and energy conservation.

FACT also proposes to take up sev-

eral new projects in collaboration with state governments and private entrepreneurs. These include projects for aniline and downstream products, melamine, bisphenol and polycarbonate, titanium dioxide and ethylene, downstream units, and the manufacture of building materials from gypsum. The total cost of these projects is estimated at Rs. 264.2 crores.

Manufacture of pipelines for petroleum products and hypodermic needles is also proposed to be taken by FACT. The FACT Engineering and Design Organisation (FEDO) had submitted an offer for a phosphatic fertiliser complex at Palmyra in Syria. Its offer for the Asmidal fertiliser complex is also under consideration of the Algerian government.

During 1988-89, FACT made tremendous improvement in production and capacity utilisation. During the year, production of nutrient nitrogen reached

2.77 lakh tonnes against the previous best of 2.38 lakh tonnes achieved in 1986-87. The capacity utilisation came to 104 per cent against the previous best of 89 per cent.

The production of nutrient P during 1988-89 came to 1.35 lakh tonnes against the previous best of 1.25 lakh tonnes achieved in 1987-88. Capacity utilisation also went up from 85 per cent in 1987-88 to 89 per cent in 1988-89.

Profit for 1988-89 after depreciation is estimated at about Rs. 28 crores against Rs. 15.62 crores in 1987-88. The profit would have been higher if the government had continued its old ration price for fertilisers.

During 1988-89, sales reached 10.80 lakh tonnes against 10.80 lakh tonnes in the previous year. The sales turnover, including subsidy, at Rs. 394 crores registered a 6.7 per cent increase over the turnover of Rs. 369 crores in 1987-88.

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## Revised formula for oil retention price sought

The oil companies have demanded that for calculating retention prices their capital base should be arrived at after taking into account the requirements of modernisation, replacements and expansion.

The method of considering the historical cost data should also be changed so that the capital base of all the companies is enlarged uniformly.

An aide memoire on "Incentives to the oil industry for better performance", prepared by the oil industry secretariat for presentation to the government, has brought out several drawbacks of the existing retention pricing mechanism that hamper generation of internal resources.

It has been pointed out that under the present system, capital employed is taken as the sum of net fixed assets (NFA) and normative working capital (NWC). The NFA is based on historical costs, which is based on an old refinery, resulting in very low capital base.

This does not help the refinery to generate adequate resources for modernisation and improvement and there is no real incentive for the companies to keep the project costs down since a larger capital base means a larger return.

It has been suggested that the normative working capital should be worked out more scientifically taking into consideration the peculiarities connected with the individual refineries and companies.

At present, the normative working capital is determined on the basis of the type of crude processed only. Other factors like locational disadvantages causing piling up of stores and spares, build-up of finished products due to market constraints, build-up of insurance spares to support the modern tech-

nology and the like are not given due weightage.

Another change has been suggested in the borrowing norms for calculating returns. At present, the total capital employed is bifurcated into networth and borrowings for the purpose of calculation of return. While the return on networth is fixed at 12 per cent post-tax, the return on borrowings is based on the actual average interest rate.

Thus, if a company reduces its interest cost through effective cash management, no benefit is given to it since the actual average interest rate is adopted for the return.

It has been suggested that a standard interest rate should be fixed for calculation of return depending on the money market and the standing of the individual company in the overall scheme of things. This would enable the companies doing better to retain the benefit.

A change in the method of calculating incentives for higher throughput by refineries has also been suggested. Presently, in case a refinery achieves higher throughput than the standard level, it is allowed full margin as applicable for the standard throughput.

The full margin, however, is based on the networth and borrowings of the base year as given in the pricing circular. The return on networth is recalculated every year based on the published financial accounts of the company.

The revised return so worked out is not given on the basis of tonne rate. Consequently, such increased return is denied on the excess throughput.

It has been suggested that the additional return on networth, based on published balance sheet, should be paid on the incremental throughput also.



## More forex sought for crude oil import

The petroleum ministry is moving the Cabinet for higher allocation of foreign exchange for import of crude oil and petroleum products during the current financial year. This follows the finance ministry's attempts to curb imports of these items in view of the tight foreign exchange position and the high rate of consumption observed in regard to certain products.

The petroleum ministry has found that if the imports are to be restricted to the levels suggested by the finance ministry, severe curbs will have to be introduced on consumption of motor spirit and diesel oil. During the first quarter of the current financial year, the consumption of motor spirit went up by 13.9 per cent. This will have to be brought down to 1.4 per cent between July-March 1989-90, if the finance ministry's instructions are to be followed.

Similarly, in case of diesel oil, the consumption rate between July-March 1989-90 will have to be brought down to 4.3 per cent against 10.8 per cent during April-June 1989-90. Bringing the consumption of motor spirit and diesel oil down to such levels is not considered possible by the petroleum ministry for several reasons.

First, curbing consumption would mean closing down some of the retail outlets which will create hardship for the people. Secondly, the coming rabi season will require large quantities of diesel for water lifting and harvesting. Agricultural production is bound to suffer in case curbs are introduced on consumption of diesel.

Thirdly, with the elections scheduled to be held in a few months time, the consumption of motor spirit and diesel oil are bound to go up as thousands of candidates launch their campaigns. If the petroleum ministry's plea is accepted by the Cabinet, there will have to be big increase in the import bill on

account of crude oil and petroleum products this year compared to last year.

During 1989-90, the import bill for crude oil and petroleum products came to Rs. 3,565 crores. The import bill this year was earlier estimated at about Rs. 5,340 crores. This was, however, based on the assumption that the crude oil prices will remain at an average of about 16 dollars a barrel. However, if the prices firm up by about a dollar a barrel, the import bill will jump up by another over Rs. 300 crores.

### IBP TO MARKET CAUVERY REFINERY PRODUCTS

IBP Co. Ltd., a public sector oil company, has been allotted storage and distribution facility of oil products of the refinery being set up by Madras Refinery Ltd. (MRL) at the Cauvery basin near Panangudi in Tanjore district,

Tamil Nadu. The company General Manager, Mr. R.T. Chiklia, told newsmen that the half-a-million tonne capacity refinery is estimated to cost Rs. 126 crores. Hitherto crude oil from the Cauvery basin was transported to Madras for distillation.

Mr. Chiklia said IBP was setting up its first refinery in Assam. A subsidiary company will be formed along with the Assam Government for executing the Rs. 1,000-crore project during the Eighth Plan. Preliminary works have already been started.

Mr. Chiklia, who inaugurated the Bangalore divisional office of the company, said the divisional office would look after outlets of the company located in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry and Kerala. It had 38 retail outlets in Karnataka and another eight outlets will be opened shortly. The first storing depot in the South will be opened at Charlapali near Hyderabad.

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## HARSHVARDHAN CHEMICALS

**Sulphuric acid project on schedule**

Harshvardhan Chemicals and Minerals Ltd. has maintained 10 per cent dividend for the six-month period ended March 31, 1989. Sales of the company for six months amounted to Rs. 168.77 lakhs as against Rs. 555.25 lakhs in the previous full year ended September 30, 1988.

The company has shown profit before interest and depreciation of Rs. 31.03 lakhs for six months as against Rs. 67.38 lakhs in the previous year. Profit after tax worked out at Rs. 17.06 lakhs as against Rs. 44.63 lakhs in the previous year. It has obtained sanction of term loan of Rs. 700 lakhs from all-India financial institutions for its proposed sulphuric acid project, which is estimated to cost Rs. 1,285 lakhs.

It has obtained consent to go for rights issue of Rs. 407.93 lakhs by offering 2,71,950 — 14 per cent secured

fully convertible debenture of Rs. 150 each for cash at par including five per cent preferential allotment to employees of the company. Rs. 75 per debenture will be converted into five equity shares of Rs. 10 each at a premium of Rs. 5 after 12 months of allotment and the remaining Rs. 75 per debenture will be converted into five equity shares of Rs. 10 each at a premium of Rs. 5 after 18 months of allotment.

Mr. Ramsinh Rathod, Chairman of the company, explained that the object of the rights issue is to raise part finance of Rs. 324 lakhs for the capital cost of sulphuric acid project and Rs. 64.50 lakhs to partly finance the working capital margin for detergent project.

The implementation of sulphuric acid project has already commenced since April and the project will be completed by September, 1990 to produce 55,000

MT of sulphuric acid, 5,000 MT oleum, 5,000 MT of chlorosulphuric acid and 5,000 MT of stabilised S

The heat generated by burning phur in sulphuric acid project will generate power of 1.7 mw which will meet the power requirements of all the divisions of the company, i.e. fertiliser chemicals and detergents and thereby the company will improve its profitability by saving in power cost.

The sulphuric acid, used for manufacturing detergent product, will require diluted acid for fertiliser division, which would reduce the input of acid in this division and thereby profitability will also improve.

**CEMENT UNITS PREFER PLASTIC PACKAGING**

Cement units are flouting the mandatory jute packaging order in their efforts to woo the consumer in a ridden, competitive market. The Packaging Material Act (JPMA) 1986 reserved 70 per cent of cement packaging for jute, leaving 30 per cent for plastic. Today, almost 40 to 50 per cent of cement is packed in plastic according to well-placed sources. This has provided some measure of relief to several sick plastic units which have survived JPMA.

Dealers have reported difficulties in selling jute-packed cement in the absence of a universal preference for the durable plastic bags. Because of damage during handling and transportation, the consumer invariably loses out on weight in the case of jute bags. Another attraction is the resale value of synthetic bags. Despite a fiscal structure designed to make plastic sacks uncompetitive, they are approximately cheaper than jute bags by Rs. 1.50 per piece. A handful of plastic units have successfully turned to the export market by adapting their looms to process polypropylene instead of the cheaper inferior HDPE.

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## Goodlass Nerolac shifts location of new unit

The Goodlass Nerolac Paints Ltd. has decided to shift the location of its proposed new unit from Haryana to Uttar Pradesh for the manufacture of paints, varnishes, enamels and synthetic resins.

Simultaneously the company has also revised the project cost upwards—from 20 crores to Rs. 9.50 crores. The increase in the cost is attributed to the development cost and nature of building.

Both these changes have been approved by the government. The original location and project cost of Rs. 6.20 crores were approved as far back as 1987. The new location of the project is in Kanpur Dehat in Uttar Pradesh as against Rewari Tehsil in Mohindgarh district of Haryana.

Consequent upon the locational change to category 'A' backward area, the company will now have no export obligation as was earlier imposed by the

government. The capacity proposed in the project is 15,000 tonnes per annum of paints, varnishes and enamels. In the revised scheme the company has also included synthetic resin for captive consumption with a capacity of 4,800 metric tonnes per annum.

The project cost of Rs. 9.50 crores will be met by equity capital on rights basis of Rs. 2.20 crores; debentures Rs. 3.35 crores; loans from FIs Rs. 3.35 crores and foreign exchange loan Rs. 60 lakhs.

The company had argued before the government that it was very difficult to explore the export market and that was one of the reasons for its changing the location of the project to a category 'A' backward area, an argument with which the Centre had concurred resulting in the deletion of export obligation clause.

In its order the government has told

the company that the new factory shall be 25 km from boundary of the standard urban area limit of Kanpur city and beyond 50 kms from the boundary of the standard urban area limit of Delhi.

The company was further told not to manufacture those items which are reserved for exclusive development in the small-scale sector.

## PETROFILS PLANT SHUT DOWN

Petrofils Co-operative Limited has shut down its plant at Baroda following an indefinite strike by the non-supervisory employees from August 7. According to the management, the strike started without any due notice and is illegal as per the Industrial Disputes Act.

The company is a joint venture of the Union Government and Co-operatives manufacturing plant for production of polyester filament yarn.

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# A rapid wrap-up of what's new in Operations, Processes and Products

## Surfactants -- A time for novelty

Surfactants play an important role in agrochemicals, polymers, biocides, pulp and paper, road making, personal products, etc. Biosurfactants are likely to be produced on a larger scale. In oil recovery an aqueous suspension of chosen microbes injected down the well, obligingly produce both surfactant and gas and lowering the interfacial tension. A surfactant produced by the yeast *Torulopsis Magnoliae*, fed on fatty acids, hydrocarbons, glucose, yeast extract, urea, etc. separates out from the aqueous solution and thus the recovery becomes delightfully simple.

Acetylenic glycols as a new group of surfactants (Surfynols) have been introduced by Air Products in USA. Polymeric surfactants behave in a different way. An area of colloid chemistry which has been the subject of much recent interest is the three phase water/oil/water emulsions. A-B-A block copolymers of poly(12-hydroxy stearic acid) and polyethylene oxide have been found to be successful and may well be exploited industrially.

Phase Transfer Catalysis (PTC) continues to find new applications and polymerization by means of PTC has been extensively developed -- liquid crystals; condensation polymerization -- here the product is perfectly predictable, random chain ends are eliminated and an exact stoichiometric balance of reactants is not needed. For higher temperature applications new catalysts based on dihexylamino pyridinium quats (e.g. with  $\text{CH}_2\text{-C}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ) have been developed which work even at  $150^\circ\text{C}$ . It is possible to recover these quats with aq. HCl in which these are soluble.

Diocetyl sulphosuccinates, obtained from EHA and maleic anhydride, continue to be important and even for oil spills in oceans these are useful. (J. Hart, *Chem. Ind.* 1989, No. 12, 19 June, 384-388).

## Chiral Synthesis (CS)

CS is becoming increasingly important. It is said that by the year 2000 almost 55% of drugs will be optically active compared to 12 to 13% in 1984. This strategy will also be applicable to agrochemicals. For drugs by 2000 the market value may well be \$ 2 to 5 billion. A variety of techniques -- resolution of racemic mixtures, enzyme

methods, asymmetric catalysis, synthesis from chiral pools will be used. R. Sheldon (of Andeno in Holland) gave the example of D(-) phenylglycine at 1000 tpa via resolution of the racemic mixture, obtained from benzaldehyde, HCN, and  $\text{NH}_3$  with (+) camphor sulphonic acid. The recycling of L (+) isomer via racemization is obviously important. For some substances it may well be possible to carry out simultaneous resolution of the unwanted isomer when the isomer remaining in solution can be induced to spontaneously epimerise. Kinetic resolution depends on the differences in the rates of each enantiomer. Enzymatic resolution is used for both D and L aminoacids. e.g. D-value is obtained through this strategy and is used to make the broad spectrum pyrethroid insecticide Fluralinate.

Marko and Sharpless have recently introduced asymmetric dihydroxylation of olefins using catalytic quantities of osmium tetroxide in the presence of N-methyl Morpholine-N-oxide as oxidant and dihydroquinidines of quine as chiral catalysts. (*Chem. Ind.* 1989, No. 12 (19 June), p. 366).

## Can Polystyrene (PS) be optically active?

Wulff and Dhal have reported the first synthesis of optically active PS with  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  as large as  $-3.5^\circ$ . An optically active template compound (D-mannitol derivative containing two *p*-vinyl phenyl boronic acid groups) was copolymerised with styrene. Subsequently  $\text{B}(\text{OH})_2$  group is reduced. (*Angew Chem. Int. Ed., Engl.* 1989, 25, 1961).

## Carane aldehydic acid lactone (CAAL)

CAAL is required for pyrethrolone insecticides and can be made by ozonation of *cis* chrysanthemic acid in an acidic medium and reductive work-up by Zn powder; EtOAc was used as a solvent. (*Chem. Abstr.* 1989, 110, 227174).

## Hofmann reaction

Mgeladze et al (from USSR) have shown that long chain fatty amides ( $>\text{C}_{14}$ ) can be treated with  $\text{Br}_2$  and KOH to give acylakyl ureas ( $\text{RNHCONHCOR}$ ) which when treated with HCl or KOH gave  $\text{RNH}_2$  in 68-86% overall yield. A mixture of cyclic amines was prepared from



the acidol naphthenic acid fraction. (*Chem. Abstr.* 1989, 110, 231062).

### High activity low Ni content catalyst

Crossfield (a Division of Uniliver) has developed a very active low Ni content supported catalyst which can be used for a variety of hydrogenations. The key lies in having a large pore alumina support where the pore size distribution has been optimised. (*ECN* 1989, 26 June, p. 18).

### 2,3 Dimethyl butene-1 (DMB-1)

B.P. have patented a process where propylene is dimerized with Ni acetylacetonate tricyclohexylphosphine in toluene as a solvent to give DMB-2, which in turn is isomerised to DMB-1 (on 10% Na on alumina).

### Simulation of an industrial reactor for orthoxylene oxidation

Nikolov and Anastasov have given a very useful account of the effect of the coolant temperature on the yield of phthalic anhydride (PAN) as well as the formation of by-products (maleic anhydride, benzoic acid, phthalide, *o*-toluic acid). An industrial reactor containing 9000 tubes, 3500 mm long and 25 m i.d. was used. The amount of coolant (molten  $\text{NaNO}_2\text{KNO}_3$  salt) was 72,000 kg. A vanadia-titania catalyst was used. It is interesting to find that an increase in the coolant temperature under some condition improves the quality of PAN. (*A.I.Ch.E.Jl.* 1989, 35, p. 511).

### Distillation

#### Recent developments

Chen (of Glitsch) and Chuang (Univ. of Alberta) have given a review of recent developments w.r.t. new design practices, new contacting devices and new applications for existing contacting devices and new troubleshooting techniques. Structured packagings are now gaining increasing importance as a good alternate or supplement to trays and random packings. The importance of supports, vapour distributors and liquid distributors has been brought out. There is an interesting Asian adage cited for liquid distributors is that if one's first step is wrong, 99 wrong steps will follow. Desirable features of the structured packings are given. Features of high performance screen trays are given. Some case studies pertaining to poor performance of a heavy water plant, upgrading a styrene tower, debottlenecking an ester still in a DMT plant and upgrading of KA oil (cyclohexanol + -one)

column, etc., are given. (*Hydrocarbon Processing* 1989 Feb., p. 37-45).

### Maleonitrile from fumaronitrile

This isomerization has been claimed by Dow in an inert nitrile solvent  $\text{R}(\text{CN})_n$  ( $n = 1, 2$ ) at room temperature in the presence of a base like KOH. (*Chem. Abstr.* 1989 110, 231131).

### Gas phase chlorination of chlorobenzene

It has been claimed that the gas phase chlorination give predominantly *para* isomer when alkali metal exchanged zeolites like Offretite/Erionite are used. (*Chem. Abstr.* 1989, 110, 231186).

### 2,4,6 Trichlorophenol (TCP)

Rhone-Poulenc have claimed that 2,6-dichlorophenol when chlorinated with  $\text{Bu}_4\text{N}^+\text{Cl}^-$  at  $70^\circ\text{C}$ , 97.1% TCP is realised. (E.P. Appln. 299,890, Jan., 1989. *Chem. Abstr.* 1989, 110, 231270).

### Selective trimerization of ethylene to hexene-1

Union Carbide Scientist J.R. Broggs has shown that homogeneous three-component catalyst of Cr, hydrolysed RA1 and dimethoxyethane allows trimerization of ethylene to hexene-1 with 74% selectivity. (*J.C.S. Chem. Commun.* 1989, 674).

### *ortho* Alkylation of phenol (P) and hydroquinone (HQ) with alkadiene-formation of cyclic ethers

Laan et al have continued their studies on *ortho* alkylation of phenols with monoolefins in the presence of aluminium phenolate as a catalyst. Now they have studied reactions of P, HQ and 4-methoxy phenol with easily available dienes like isoprene, cyclopentadiene, 2,3 dimethyl butadiene, dipentene, etc. In most cases high yields of cyclic ethers were realised. (*Chem. Ind.* 1989 5 June, p. 354).

### Crystallization (C) for bioseparations

Cussler et al have reviewed the subject of C with specific reference to bioseparations. Crystals are often synonymous with purity and uniform size crystals flow properly. The importance of population balance for predicting crystal size distribution has been brought out. Sometimes recrystallization becomes necessary to realise a product of specified purity and specs with reference to impurities. There is dearth of information on



crystallization in a batch system for organic materials. (*Chemtech.*, 1989, June, p. 376).

### Promoting organizational excellence

J.G. Lownstein (of FMC Corp., USA) has given a minitreatise on this subject where conceptually the judgement is passed by the customer or client. There has to be a passionate attachment for practicing and promoting excellence. Excellence is accomplished through leadership, not through management. A list of things FMC purports to do is given. Some statements worth quoting are "Abolish petty rules" "be inventive. Do something unexpected – even something courageous". (*Chemtech.*, 1989, June, p. 328).

### A new flue gas desulphurization (FGD) process

Flue gas is contacted with an aqueous solution containing 10-20% sulphuric acid and 1 wt% bromine which converts dissolved  $\text{SO}_2$  to  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ .  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  is concentrated and sold and  $\text{HBr}$  is electrolysed and  $\text{Br}_2$  recycled. A pilot plant is operating in Sardinia, Italy. (*Chem. Eng.* 1989, 96, No. 6, June, p. 21).

### Clay catalysis: Enolthioethers from cyclic ketones

Labiad and Villemin have shown that montmorillonite KSF in refluxing toluene catalyses the synthesis of 1-alkyl- and 1-arylthio alkenes from ketones and thiols (thiophenol or 1-butanethiol). *Synthesis*, 1989, No. 2, p. 143).

### Dewatering of biological slurry by using water absorbent polymer gel (WAPG)

Huang et al have developed a new concentrating/dewatering process which utilises a suitable WAPG. This gel should be very porous for rapid water absorption and at the same time of large size, to provide easier separation. Poly (vinyl methyl ether) gel was found to be suitable. Microbe-rich organic slurry can be dewatered by this "gel dewatering process". (*Biotechnology Bioeng.* 1989, 34, 102).

### Scale-up challenge holds back biotechnology

Dr. R.A. Richards and Dr. D. Roach have brought out the merits of biotechnology and its limitations. Traditional biological routes to chemical production are: Extraction: sugar, menthol; Fermentation: Citric acid, amino acids; Whole cell biotransformations: ephedrine, vitamin C; Enzyme biotransformations: High Fructose Syrup, semi-synthetic penicillins. Enzymes are power-

ful and specific catalysts which work at close to ambient conditions; stereo- and regio-selectivity can be realised and novel molecules can be synthesised. Chiral intermediates are now receiving serious attention: e.g.  $\text{C}_3$  synthons: (R) Isopropylidene glycerol, (R) Glycidyl butyrate, (S) Epichlorohydrin, (R) 3 Chloro 1,2 propenediol.

There is now increasing pressure to produce drugs and agrochemicals to provide optically active isomer even though the unwanted optical isomer may be benign. (*Performance Chemicals* 1989, April, p. 14).

### Technology in competitive strategy: Lessons from the chemical industry

Chakrabarti and Eakabuse have given a treatise on this subject. Overall competitive strategies require both corporate and technological strategies to provide a firm with sustainable, profitable position. Changes in technology can lead to product obsolescence (e.g. vacuum tube and slide rule). The pertinent questions are: (i) should an organization be aggressive in its technology strategy? (ii) should it be a technology leader or follower? (iii) should it develop internally or procure it from outside the firm? etc. Topics covered include: Three approaches to corporate strategy (Adaptive behaviour and strategy, strategy for growth and diversification, generic competitive strategies). Elements of technology strategy; some strategic issues in the chemical industry; nature of innovations in the CI. (*Chem. Eng. Prog.* 1989, March, p. 20).

### Politics and Personalities in R&D

R. King, who has worked with some renowned companies and now acts as a consultant, has given an unusual account of this subject as he believes that politics can often play a crucial part in scientific R&D. He has given a graphic description of his varied experiences. Some interesting quotes from the paper are: "Spare me the facts. Just tell me, what are the politics of this assignment". "Successful R&D can be defined as the making of silk purses out of sow's ears". King was involved in the study of the Nypro disaster; he had explored the formation of an unstable heat-sensitive peroxide. He has been honest in exposing problems associated with a fair expose' of the cause of a disaster. His next example is that of a fractionator for heat-sensitive material and brings out the role of politics associated with the ideas of the "boss" of the division. Lastly he says that the catalytic cracking process owed more to politics (the Weizman patents) and the strong and charming personality of Dr. Kind than to proper R&D. (*Chem. Ind.* 1989, 15 May, p. 307).



## Research and the Chemical Industry (CI): Where do we get our new ideas

W.J.D. Tollett has given an interesting account of this subject w.r.t. U.K. in particular. The worldwide production of chemicals is about 1000 billion dollars/annum; expenditure on R&D, on an average basis, may approach 4% of the turnover. CI innovation is subject to market push and technology pull. With just market pull, companies will miss the opportunities to come from science which is not yet known in the market e.g. high temperature superconductor. There is a useful role for technology scouting by extra-mural agencies. (*Speciality Chemicals* 1989, p. 146).

## The invention factory

Ben Daviss has given a graphic account of The Battelle Memorial Institute which has spent 60 years figuring out how to fertilize crops, store nuclear waste, find a better car, etc. It has even constructed a computer-controlled robotic mannequin that is so human-like that it even sweats. This robot will be used to test protective clothing in simulated conditions that are hazardous for humans. The story of xeroxing is well known. Currently Battelle is working in many areas. In biological and chemical sciences it has developed the molecular beam inlet device which makes spectrometers more versatile. In biotechnology a new membrane technology has been developed which will minimize fouling. Battelle now has a design of a car which will take four passengers and allow 1 gallon to cover 85 miles in a city and a diesel version which will log 100 to 105 miles per gallon. However, interest in commercially exploiting this idea does not seem to exist right now. (*Chemtech* 1989, May, p. 284).

Another article in May 1989 issue of *Chemtech*, p. 279, refers to Vision-Innovation by W. Copulsky, who had worked for several years for one of the great commercial innovators in the chemical industry, Bradley Dewey, Sr. Dewey had worked on packaging with film to prevent deterioration of food. He was associated with Dow's Saran packing. Hewlett (of H-Packard) was developer of a pocket calculator. The visionary operates by feel and depends on his experience and is not afraid of failures. Experience comes first, thinking and theory later. Kettering's remarks are apt. "Beware of logic; it is an organised way of going wrong with confidence".

## Cultivating the innovative process

R.J. Glover has given a very useful and interesting treatise. There is quote in the beginning "while management

demands consensus, control, certainty, and the status quo, creativity thrives on the opposite-instinct, uncertainty, freedom and iconoclasm". It would be reasonable to say that management and creativity are antithetical. Recognition and reward systems are important. Even failures be rewarded! Let innovation be the journey and not the destination; the by-product will be financial success for the company. (*Chemtech*. 1989, April, p. 221).

## Condensation of mixed vapours of hydrocarbons and water in a shell and tube condenser

Condensation of vapours resulting in two-immiscible liquids is commonly encountered in practice and here the heat transfer coefficient is radically different from that for condensation of vapours where only one liquid is formed. Kim and Webb have made a systematic study for the first time in a shell and tube condenser. The film model gives a good description of the operation. It is likely that under conditions of rather low temperature driving forces only one component condenses. (*Chem. Eng. Res. Des.* 1989, 67, 87).

## "Pellet" reactor for recovery of heavy metals from aqueous waste streams

Heavy metals like Ni, present at levels of 10-100,000 ppm can be recovered to the extent of 99%. The reactor consists of a cylindrical vessel, partially filled with a suitable seed material such as filter sand. A 60 cm dia. reactor can treat 1200 litres/hour of water containing 1 g/l of Ni; the metal crystallises as carbonate. (*Process Engg* 1989, April, p. 25).

## Extruder halogenation of butyl rubber

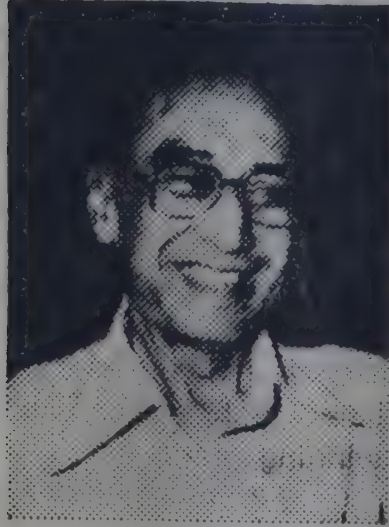
Kowalski (of Exxon) has given some details of a process under development where halogenation of butyl rubber is done in an extruder. Butyl rubber has 2% isoprene moiety and this is the target molecule for halogenation and 90-99% or more of isoprene must be halogenated to get acceptable grade. The melt has a viscosity in the range of 100 million cp. There are several intricate engineering problems and this paper gives some relevant details. (*Chem. Eng. Prog.* 1989, 85, May, p. 67).

## Spontaneous separation of enantiomeric components in synthetic bilayer membranes.

Ymada et al have shown that enantiomeric components in bilayer membranes of chiral ammonium amphiphiles which contain the azobenzene unit separate spontaneously from each other. This is quite remarkable. (*Chem. Lett.* 1989, p. 205).



## IN FOND REMEMBRANCE



### Shri Haribhai Patel

Chairman: Transpek Industry Ltd.

Expired on 25.8.88

अद्वेष्टा सर्वभूतानां मैत्रः करुण एव च।  
निर्ममो निरहङ्कारः समदुःखसुखः क्षमी॥

"Without hatred towards anyone, friendly and compassionate, without attachment and ego, balanced in pain and pleasure and forgiving."

Shri Haribhai Patel had these divine traits and directed his life in accordance with the spirit of the Bhagvad-Geeta. He led a simple life which was devoted to the service of industry and society without any self-interest.

Deeply mourned by the Directors and Staff of Rasendra Chemexport Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.



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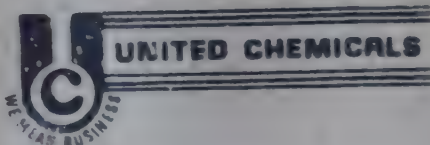
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# FICCI calls for abolition of turnover tax

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has called for abolition of turnover tax, which has been imposed by many states including Karnataka, West Bengal, Maharashtra and Gujarat. Being a multi-point tax, it cannot be recovered from consumers and therefore, would adversely affect the economic viability of trade, FICCI has pointed out.

Issues concerning trade, including sales tax, turnover tax, consignment tax, octroi, entry tax, the Essential Commodities Act, and the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, will be examined at a regional trade conference of FICCI to be held at Bangalore. To be inaugurated by Mr. P. Venkatasubbaiah, governor of Karnataka, the conference will be attended by a large number of traders from the southern region.

The conference will discuss trade and consumer protection legislations. FICCI feels that the Essential Commodities Act and the Essential Commodities Special Provisions Act have lost their relevance today mainly because the emphasis of these legislations has been on regulating distribution, relegating, and more important objective of expanding supplies to the background.

FICCI also points out that there are serious flaws in the PFA act and the rules framed thereunder and in the implementation strategy. Since standard products are not defined separately from adulterated products, there is room for arbitrariness. It is mainly due to the absence of standard methods of sampling and laboratory facilities. Regarding implementation of standards of weights and measures (packaged commodities) rules, FICCI feels that multiple challan should not be levied for the same commodity sold in the same package at different retail outlets. Traders should not be held responsible for any shortage or deficiencies in the case of packaged items sold in the original forms supplied by manufacturers.

## DUTY EXEMPTION SCHEME

The guarantee period under the Exemption Scheme by a bank has reduced from five years to three years.

A release from the office of the Controller of Imports and Exports para 10 in Appendix XIX-F indemnity cum guarantee bond form of export obligations to be executed under Exemption Scheme and in Appendix XIX-H-indemnity cum guarantee form of export obligations to be executed by the intermediate manufacturer under Duty Exemption Scheme as intermediate advance licences has modified to read as follows:

"This guarantee by the guarantor bank hereunder shall remain in force for a period of three years from the date of the execution of the bond. If no claim is made by the Government within the said date, the guarantor will be discharged of all the liabilities of payment under this guarantee. Further agreed that in the event of obligations of this importer being duly discharged to the full and final satisfaction of the Government before the aforesaid date, the guarantor bank and the importer shall either renew or revive the validity of the guarantee for a further period as may be required by the Government or the guarantor shall pay at any time prior to the expiry of the indemnity-cum-guarantee without any demur, the amount which may be demanded by the Government."

## NALCO CHEM. HAS NEW

Nalco Chemicals India Ltd. (a joint venture company of Chemical Company of USA and India Ltd., which is setting up a plant at Rishra to produce speciality chemicals, now has a new managing director. Mr. J.M. Madole. A senior manager in the international division of Chemical Company of USA, Mr. Madole replaces Mr. B. Branon.



## Environment clearance for NALCO project

The alumina project being set up by Nodal Aluminium Company Ltd. (NALCO) at Damanjodi in Orissa has been accorded clearance by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The clearance is subject to certain standard and specific conditions. Non-implementation of the stipulated conditions under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, and the Environment (Protection) Act 1986, may lead to the revocation of the clearance.

The Ministry may take the same step in case of unsatisfactory implementation of any conditions, according to official sources. While NALCO has to strictly adhere to the stipulations laid down by the State Government and the State Pollution Control Board, it will not decrease the throughput capacity of the plant without the permission of the Ministry. Besides, the type of raw material for the alumina plant also should not be changed.

The project authorities will have to treat the liquid effluents to the maximum extent possible either as process water or for afforestation. Moreover, the solid effluents discharged from the complex must conform to the standards prescribed by the Pollution Control Boards at the Centre and the State. For the project authorities should provide continuous monitoring facilities.

In case the effluent level exceeded the standard prescribed at any time, the plant contributing to the excessive pollution loads will have to be stopped of operation and remain shut until the faulty units are rectified. For control of pollution, gaseous emissions of sulphur dioxide, oxides of nitrogen and hydrocarbons from the alumina plant should not at any time exceed the maximum prescribed limit stipulated by the Centre and the State.

The Ministry has noted that in event

of failure of any of the control systems adopted by the unit, that particular section of the plant should be put out of operation and not restarted until the control systems are rectified to achieve the desired level of efficiency. For this purpose, the project authorities must set up a minimum of four air-quality-monitoring stations in consultation with the State Pollution Control Boards at different locations of the plant and in nearby areas. This should be done after detailed modelling exercises.

The NALCO authorities will also have to evaluate the efficiency of sulphur dioxide absorption by alumina and the recommendations sent to the Environment Ministry for review. NALCO has also been told that all the stacks of the plant must be provided with automatic monitoring equipment. The data so monitored should be recorded and submitted to the State Pollution Control Board once every quarter and half-yearly to the Union Ministry.

Moreover, design of stacks should not be changed without the prior approval of the board. The performance of the electrostatic precipitators installed in the plant must be reported to the Ministry once in three months. The red mud from which bauxite has been extracted must be utilised by the project authorities for brick making and pozzolana cement. A disaster management plan duly approved by the nodal agency has to be submitted to the ministry within a period of six months.

As for the afforestation plan, the project authorities will have to develop a green belt of 660 hectares which is not to be used for any other activity. The tree plantation in the green belt should be at the rate of 1,000 trees per acre. Additional areas under the control of the company which is not being used for plant utilities must also be afforested with adequate density. A full-fledged laboratory with facilities for collection and analysis of samples and a separate

environmental management cell with suitably qualified personnel to carry out various functions related to environmental management should be set up.

NALCO has been told that adequate funds must be made available for implementation of these conditions and the finances provided for this purpose should not be diverted for any other activity. NALCO's plant at Damanjodi comprises an alumina refinery with a capacity of eight lakh tonnes per annum.

It has been set up in two phases. Stream-I of the plant started commercial output of hydrate and calcined alumina on a continuous basis from October 1987. Work on Stream-II has also been completed and trial production started from June last year.

### SERENE DYESTUFF FARES WELL

Serene Dyestuff Industries Ltd. has reported encouraging results for the nine-month period ended March 31, 1989. Sales and other income rose to Rs. 563.44 lakhs as compared to Rs. 254.67 lakhs for the full 12 month-period ended June 30, 1988.

Gross profit went up to Rs. 27.96 lakhs for the nine-month period as compared to Rs. 5.86 lakhs for the previous full year. After providing Rs. 21.67 lakhs for depreciation, the profit before investment allowance reserve is Rs. 6.26 lakhs.

Serene's new project commenced production in August 1988 and achieved a capacity utilisation of 72 per cent in a seven-month period. The company has expanded its range to include high-value added products and the outlook for the future is promising, says a press release.

The Company has made a cash profit of Rs. 27.96 lakhs and an operating profit of Rs. 6.28 lakhs for the first year of production of its new project at Chiplun in Maharashtra.



# Indo-British workshops on heat pumps and energy conservation

Heat pumps, a unique heat recovery device, can be used to recycle energy in chemical and process industries. In industrially developed countries, many heat pumps of both types, mechanical and absorption, in sizes ranging from kW to MW, are being used resulting in significant energy conservation.

Recognising the enormous potential for heat pumps in India, NCL has made pioneering efforts in this area since 1980 through an international collaboration with the University of Salford, U.K. sponsored by the Overseas Development Administration (UK) and administered by the British Council Division, Bombay. As a part of the programme, NCL has been conducting workshops to enhance the awareness in India on the potential for heat pumps and energy conservation. The aim of these workshops is to give the participants a realistic appreciation of the availability of international heat pump technology and its relevance to India.

The workshop will be held on November 20 at New Delhi and from November 23-25 at Pune. Experts from U.K., Mexico and from NCL will lecture on the various aspects of heat pumps and energy conservation.

The workshop at NCL will include demonstrations of various heat pump units including a water-to-water pump, a heat pump assisted dryer, a heat pump assisted distillation column and absorption systems. Four short courses held earlier at NCL have generated significant industrial interest towards heat pump technology and heat recovery.

All the registered participants will have an opportunity to have discussions with a panel which will include the faculty and specially invited officials from energy related government agencies. The venue for the workshop at Delhi will be announced shortly. The

venue of the workshop at Pune will be the National Chemical Laboratory.

The workshop at NCL will include the following lectures. Some of these lectures will be presented in a condensed form in the workshop at Delhi.

Heat Pump Fundamentals, Sorption Heating & Cooling — Part I, Heat Pump Compressors, Preliminary Design of Heat Pumps, Organic Rankine Power Cycles, Heat Pump Assisted Evaporation, Sorption Heating and Cooling Part II, Field Experience with Absorption Cooling Systems, Industrial Energy Management — Part I, Heat Pump Assisted Drying, Economics of Heat Pump Applications, Industrial Energy Management — Part II, Potential for Heat Pumps in India, Heat Exchanger Networks and Heat Pumps.

For further details contact: Dr. S. Devotta, Chemical Engineering Division, National Chemical Laboratory, Pune-411 008. Telex: 0145-266/586/653 NCL, Fax: 0212,330233, Phone: 333941, Gram: "CHEMISTRY", Pune 411 008.

## SYMPOSIUM ON BIOLOGICAL PROCESSING OF COAL

The U.S. Department of Energy's Pittsburgh Energy Technology Center is seeking papers for the first International Symposium on the Biological Processing of Coal scheduled for May 1-3, 1990, at the Hyatt Orlando Hotel in Orlando, Florida.

The symposium, jointly sponsored by DOE and the Electric Power Research Institute, will promote interest in this emerging area of coal research and identify new technologies. Biological processing is the use of naturally occurring microorganisms to clean or convert coal. Those interested in preparing a paper for consideration must first submit

a 200-400 word synopsis, including name, title, business address, and telephone number no later than October 1, 1989.

Papers should be classified in one of four categories: (1) coal structure and bioreactivity; (2) coal analysis; (3) coal biosolubilisation, biogasification and biobeneficiation (including deashir, desulphurisation, denitrification, and bio-assisted flotation); and (4) bioconversion of coal-derived substances (including bioconversion of synthesis gas and coal combustion gases, and processing of tars and sludges).

Synopses should be sent to: Dr. K. Rhee, U.S. Department of Energy, Pittsburgh Energy Technology Center, P.O. Box 10940, M.S. 141/L, Pittsburgh, PA 15236. U.S.A. Telephone: 412/892-5913.

## WHO CONFERENCE ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

The World Health Organisation has announced details of its first *European Symposium on Occupational Health, the 1990's under the theme "Time for a New Approach"* to be held at the R Congress Centre, Amsterdam, from 13-16, March 1990.

- The symposium will review:
- \* Education and training needs in occupational health,
  - \* The supply, distribution and education of the occupational health team professionals,
  - \* Preventable issues and emerging trends in occupational health in 1990's.

For those concerned with occupational health this symposium is a must.

Further details are available from Occupational Health for the 1990 Symposium Secretariat, CEP Consultants Ltd., 26-28 Albany Street, Edinburgh, EH11 3QH. Tel.: 031 557 2444 Fax: 031 557 5749.



## Seminar on Pollution Control in Metallurgical Industries

A two day seminar on Pollution and Control in Metallurgical and Metal Finishing Industries was held on 11th and 12th August 1989 at AIEMA Technology Centre, Ambattur Industrial Estate, Ambattur, Madras. The seminar was organised by the society for Advancement of Electrochemical Science and Technology, Madras Chapter and Central Electrochemical Research Institute, Karaikudi.

The seminar provided a forum for an exchange of knowledge on the state of the art of the subject, the experiences and the impediments in implementing pollution control measures. During the seminar, invited papers were presented on the control measures adopted on pollution in metallurgical and metal finishing industries, the handicaps of the industries in effecting rigorously the pollution control regulations, and the recent developments.

About 50 delegates participated. They included personnel from industry, R & D institutions and pollution control agencies. Shri F.J. Vaz, I.A.S., Chairman and Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Small Industries Development Corporation Limited, inaugurated the seminar. Prof. S.K. Rangarajan, Director, Central Electrochemical Research Institute, Karaikudi, presided. In the concluding session, an open house discussion was arranged to enable the delegates participating from various organisations to present a brief on their experiences in the respective industries.

### CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION

The fourth conference in this successful biennial series covering environmental contamination of air, soil and water will be held in Barcelona from October 1990. Themes for the 1990 conference are:

- Atmospheric environmental impact —

increase of ozone, CO<sub>2</sub>, UVB-radiation

- \* Contaminated land
- \* Utilisation of sewage sludge
- \* Toxic wastes
- \* Pollutants in continental water systems and their transport to the sea
- \* Artificial radioactivity in the environment
- \* Long term pollution and evolution
- \* Health effects
- \* Biomonitoring
- \* Waste treatment processes
- \* Environmental analytical chemistry

Deadline for submission of 300-word abstracts is 9th March 1990.

Further details from: Environmental Contamination Secretariat, CEP Consultants Ltd., 26-28 Albany Street, Edinburgh EH1 3QH. Tel.: 031 557 2478, Fax: 031 557 5749.

### FOURTH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON QUANTITATIVE LUMINESCENCE SPECTROMETRY IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

State University of Ghent, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Harelbekestraat 72, B-9000 Ghent (BELGIUM), Tel. 32-(0)91-21.89.51 ext. 254, Telefax 32-(0)91-21.79.02 is organising the Fourth International Symposium on Quantitative Luminescence Spectrometry in Biomedical Sciences between May 27-31, 1991.

Details can be had from Dr. Willy R.G. Baeyens, Symposium Chairman, State University of Ghent, Pharmaceutical Institute, Harelbekestraat 72, B-9000 Ghent (Belgium).

### NEW MANAGING DIRECTOR FOR LPA

Mr. N. Balaraman has taken over as the Managing Director of Loss Preven-

tion Association of India Ltd., Bombay on 1st August, 1989. Prior to joining LPA, Mr. Balaraman was General Manager of General Insurance Corporation of India.

### NRI TO BUY FOREIGN STAKE IN SHALIMAR PAINTS

The non-resident Indian group, headed by Mr. S.S. Jhunjhunwala, will acquire, subject to Reserve Bank of India approval, 40 per cent equity shareholding in Shalimar Paints Ltd. held by Courtaulds Coatings Ltd. formerly known as International Paints, Plc. Ltd. UK.

The Jhunjhunwala group has been based in Hong Kong for over 35 years and is involved in watch manufacture, real estate, investment and financial services. The group also operates a ferro-silicon manufacturing unit.

Meanwhile, the local shareholding of the Mehta family in Shalimar Paints (about 20 per cent), it is learnt, is to be sold to the Jindal group in India. As Jhunjhunwala and Jindal families are related, it has been proposed to operate Shalimar Paints as a joint venture of the Jindal-Jhunjhunwala group.

The Jhunjhunwala and Jindal groups have given an assurance that the present management will remain under the leadership of the managing director, Mr. V.K. Bhalla. The new partners of Shalimar Paints have plans for expansion, modernisation and diversification of the company's operations.

### C.N.R. RAO HONOURED

The Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, presented a scroll of honour to Prof. C.N.R. Rao, chairman, Science Advisory Council, for his outstanding contribution to research.

The scroll has been instituted by the Gujarnal Modi Science Foundation.



## NRDC awards for ten inventions announced

The National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) has announced its 1989 Independence Day awards for ten innovative inventions under its invention promotion programme. The cash awards for the ten inventions amount to a total of Rs. 2.8 lakhs.

The prize award committee recognised developments in key areas of national importance, such as development of "space qualified multicavity interference filters", "respiratory flow meter" to record both peak expiratory and inspiratory flows, "an improved type of cell for production of magnesium metal by fused chloride electrolysis" reducing energy consumption, "durable blood analysis equipment".

\* Dr. V.V. Shah, Dr. B.S. Verma, Dr. R. Bhattacharya, Dr. (Mrs.) M. Kar and Mr. T.K. Battacharyya of the

National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi, have been jointly awarded a sum of Rs. 50,000 for developing the space qualified multicavity interference filters for the infra-red band of smart sensor (payload of Rohini Satellite-D2). These filters provide a large bandwidth with low back-ground transmission showing steep rise and fall with nearly flat top transmission characteristics.

\* Dr. Virendra Singh of Jaipur has been awarded a sum of Rs. 50,000 for the development of a respiratory flow meter which records peak expiratory flow rate (PEFR) alongwith peak inspiratory flow (PIF). The novelty of the device is that one end of it can be used for mouth piece attachment and both PEFR and PIF can be recorded, making the operation quite easy and less time-consuming. The device is useful for monitoring severity of asthma,

response to bronchodilators and provides information about the emphysema lung disease.

\* Mr. P.S. Desikan, K.S. Srinivasan, A. Selvakesavan, G.N. Kannan, S. Sukumaran, L.K. Srinivasan, P. Selvaraj, C.O. Augustin, T. Selvin Desai, N. Rajagopalan, K.S. Dhanani and S. Srikantan of the Central Electrochemical Research Institute, Karaikal, have been jointly awarded a sum of Rs. 5,000 for the design and development of an improved (modular) cell for production of magnesium metal by electrolysis from sea-bittern magnesite. This modular concept of cell will save about 40% of electrical energy in comparison to conventional cell.

\* Mr. Raghbir Singh Khandpur, Ashok Kumar Bhandari and Mr. S. Singh Randhawa of the Central Scientific Instruments Organisation, Chandigarh, have been jointly awarded a sum of Rs. 30,000 for the development of blood analysis equipment for analysing various blood parameters like glucose, urea, albumin, proteins etc.

\* Dr. V.B. Singh, Dr. K.G.K. Murthy, Mr. P.K. Kaushik, Mr. Sanjay Subramanian of Shri Ram Fibres Ltd., Madras and Mr. J.K. Khanna, Dr. Jayaraman, Dr. K.V. Raghavan, Dr. D.H. Kamath, Mr. S. Ramalingam and Dr. G. Thyagarajan of the Central Leather Research Institute, Madras have been jointly awarded Rs. 20,000 for development of "tuftan", a leather chemical, based on polyamide resin, which fixes more chrome on leather in the tanning process and therefore considerably reduces chrome going in the effluent. It imparts intense and uniform dyeing and improves overall properties of leather.

Mr. K. Mallikarjunappa, Mr. M. Ratra and Mr. S.N. Moorching of Central Power Research Institute, Bangalore have been jointly awarded a sum of Rs. 15,000 for developing the healing break down detector for power capacitors.

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Telex: 031-61441 SCBP-IN



# IOC plans Rs. 1,466-crore oil refinery in Orissa

The Indian Oil Corpn. (IOC) has proposed a six-million tonne refinery based on imported crude oil to be set up at Daitari in Orissa to meet the increasing demand for petroleum products in the eastern region. According to the feasibility report submitted by IOC to the Petroleum Ministry, based on the May 1989 prices, the refinery will cost Rs. 1,466.50 crores, including a foreign exchange component of Rs. 222.10 crores. The feasibility report has also proposed a 928-km pipeline estimated to cost Rs. 561.87 with a foreign exchange component of Rs. 96.06 crores. The refinery will be completed within 48 months of approval of the detailed feasibility report by the Centre.

Daitari has been selected as the site for the proposed refinery because of several advantages offered by it. These include proximity to the highway, rail and water resources, barren land with no habitation around the site and minimal site preparation requirement. The site is also away from the cyclonic zone at Paradeep.

The Paradeep port is already a developed port with sufficient draft and tide without any congestion. The refinery will have a hydrocracker of 1.6 million tonnes capacity and fluid catalytic cracker of 0.65 million tonnes capacity. The refinery will be designed to process crude oil falling in Api range of 27 to 28 degree and a sulphur content of upto 0.5 per cent to maximise production of middle distillates.

The debt equity ratio of the refinery has been assumed at 1:1 and the economic rate of return at 16 per cent. The pipeline will have two sections. The imported crude oil received at the Paradeep oil terminal will be pumped through a 100 km pipeline to the Daitari refinery. The pipeline will have a cathodic protection and telecommunication and telesupervisory controls.

The total cost of these facilities will be Rs. 145.29 crores with a foreign exchange component of Rs. 32.26

crores. The second section of the pipeline will carry products from Daitari to Allahabad traversing through Orissa, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. It will have four intermediate pump stations at Kendujhar, Rourkela, Ranchi and Chandani with terminal facilities at Allahabad. It is proposed to provide tap points at Rourkela and Ranchi and despatch facilities at Rourkela, Ranchi and Allahabad. The capacity of this product pipeline will be three million inclusive of marketing facilities. It is estimated to cost Rs. 416.58 crores with a foreign exchange component of Rs. 63.80 crores.

## MORE EXCHANGE FOR CRUDE OIL IMPORT SOUGHT

The Petroleum Ministry is moving the cabinet for higher allocation of foreign exchange for import of crude oil and petroleum products during the current financial year. This follows the Finance ministry's attempts to curb imports of these items in view of the tight foreign exchange position and the high rate of consumption observed in regard to certain products.

The Petroleum Ministry has found that if the imports are to be restricted to the levels suggested by the finance ministry, severe curbs will have to be introduced on consumption of motor spirit and diesel oil. During the first quarter of the current financial year, the consumption of motor spirit went up by 13.9%. This will have to be brought down to 1.4% between July-March 1989-90, if the Finance Ministry's instructions are to be followed.

Similarly, in case of diesel oil, the consumption rate between July-March 1989-90 will have to be brought down to 4.3% against 10.8% during April-June 1989-90. Bringing the consumption of motor spirit and diesel oil down to such levels is not considered possible by the Petroleum Ministry for several reasons.

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## Gas grids in Gujarat to be integrated

Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) is intensifying its activities in the western region by adopting various advanced production techniques — early production system, work-over operations, well stimulation etc.

Oil production in the region would increase from 6.21 million tonnes in 1989-90 to 9.02 million tonnes in 1994-95 and gas production would touch approximately 14 billion cubic metres in 1994-95 from the present level of one billion cubic metres. The main contribution to oil production is expected from the Gandhar belt, Balol, Lanwa etc.

Disclosing this an ONGC spokesman said that the LPG production will also go up to 60,000 tonnes per annum from Gandhar and 45,000 tonnes from Ankleshwar. Presently, ONGC produces approximately 4.5 million cubic metres of gas per day and major increase would come from Gandhar. The gas grids of north and south Gujarat are proposed to be integrated.

It is planned to install five compressors, out of which, one each would be set up at Kalol, Nawagam and Sanand to increase utilisation of gas. One LPG plant will be established in Gandhar to supply bottled domestic fuel to consumers.

The total area of the Cambay basin is approximately 45,000 sq. km. Till date, semi-detailed geological mapping of 60,000 sq. km. has been completed. Twelve departmental and three contract parties are engaged in conducting seismic surveys from the basins.

For the first time, 3-D data acquisition in Balol area was started under UNDP during 1985-86. Various geoscientific data collected have helped in identifying 186 prospects where drilling has been undertaken.

Till March 31st this year, 2205 wells

have been drilled of which 1377 were oil bearing and 127 gas bearing. Many of the wells are either under testing or fully tested. Today, there are 38 rigs operating in various parts of Gujarat

The spokesman said the annual Plan 1989-90 envisages drilling of 313 wells in the State which includes the contract drilling also. Starting from a meagre quantity of 100 tonnes of oil per day in September 1961 at Ankleshwar, oil production of western region has gone up to 16,500 tonnes per day.

Similarly, gas production has also been stepped up from 0.14 million cubic metres in 1964 to about 4.5 million cubic metres per day. At present, oil from major fields is transported through 557 km trunk pipelines to Gujarat refinery, Baroda. The gas is providing basic feed stock to chemicals, power, textiles, pharmaceuticals etc.

The spokesman said an investment of Rs. 1,630 crores up to March 31, has boosted the State's economy. Since inception ONGC has paid Rs. 664.28 crores as royalty, Rs. 269.5 crores as sales tax to the State Government. Besides, a cess of Rs. 1,830.63 crores has been paid to the Union Government.

Substantial financial assistance has been made for construction of footbridge, street lights, repair of roads, maintenance of gas pipelines, maintenance of schools, construction of bus-stands, sewage disposal etc.

### OIL STRUCK IN JALGAON

Oil has been struck in Jalgaon in north Maharashtra according to information received from the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) by the State Government. Chief Minister Sharad Pawar announced in the legislative assembly on August 10.

Oil and Natural Gas Commission had

asked permission to start drilling 450 hectare area where the oil deposit was located. The Government granted permission and drilling expected to commence after the monsoon.

Mr. Pawar said the exact extent of oil deposit in the area was not known immediately. ONGC wanted to undertake drilling without much delay permission was granted promptly by Government. The Chief Minister's announcement was greeted by the ringing of desks by the members in House.

### SHORTAGE OF ALUMINIUM UNLIKELY

The gap between demand and availability of major non-ferrous metals like copper, zinc and lead is expected to remain as wide as ever. No imminent shortage of aluminium is, however, expected and Bharat Aluminium Company (BALCO) has, in fact, entered an MoU with MMTC to export its ducts.

The latest official estimates show the demand for copper and zinc in 1989-90 will more or less remain at the same levels as last year. The demand for copper is estimated at 135,000 tonnes, of which only 41 per cent of it would be met by indigenous production. The demand for zinc is expected at 155,000 tonnes.

The indigenous availability of zinc is expected to marginally improve from 55 per cent last year to 55 per cent this year. Local production of lead is expected to pick up but even it will meet only 62 per cent of demand estimated at 65,000 tonnes in 1989-90. The gap between demand and supply is being met through imports which are canalised.

BALCO expects to export 1.1 million tonnes this year against Rs. 1.1 crore worth last year.



## R & D EFFORTS IN PETROLEUM SECTOR

# Rs. 1309 crore outlay in Eighth Plan suggested

An outlay of Rs. 1,309 for research and development in the petroleum sector has been suggested by a Planning Commission sub-group for the Eighth Five Year Plan. This includes Rs. 935 crores for exploration and production, Rs. 358 crores for refining and Rs. 16 crores for conversion. The sub-group has suggested that research and development efforts in the petroleum sector in the Eighth Plan should include areas such as underground coal gasification, research wells, development of alternative sources of energy, technologies for cost reduction, and improving additive terms.

Some of the thrust areas identified by the sub-group for petroleum refining are development of a new catalyst for cracking and reforming, adoption and indigenisation of distillate hydrocracking of residues for bottoms upgradation and technology development for production of quality bitumen from Indian crudes. Attention should also be paid to conversion of natural gas into middle distillates, development of suitable technology for absorptive and membrane separation of light gases, improved additive systems for lubricants and fuels and development of high performance lubricants.

In the area of oil exploration and production, the sub-group has suggested that efforts should be concentrated on development of new techniques for detecting surface hydrocarbon exploration, development of techniques for combating the drilling problems arising out of hostile environments in deep and ultra-deep wells, dimensional data acquisition, hydrocarbon generation and modelling.

Research and development efforts are also required for deep sea production systems and their techno-economic evaluation, corrosion protection and its

efficacy, particularly in offshore structures, and indigenisation of oilfield equipment and chemicals. In the field of oil conservation, the sub-group has suggested development of efficient gas burners, fuel-efficient kerosene appliances, and efficient aluminium melting furnaces for small-scale sector should be taken up. Efforts should also be made for development of efficient diesel engines for water pumpsets, ceramic heat wheel, recycling of used lubricants and solar thermal energy projects.

## HANDLING OF OFFSHORE GAS: GOVERNMENT TURNS DOWN PROPOSAL FOR SECOND TERMINAL

The central government has turned down a proposal for setting up a second terminal in Maharashtra to handle offshore gas. The proposal for setting up such a terminal was made by both the Maharashtra government and the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC). The Maharashtra government had proposed a second terminal to provide an impetus to gas-based power, sponge iron, fertiliser, and chemical units in the state. The ONGC had made the second terminal in Maharashtra a part of its original western offshore integrated development plan.

The matter was referred by the Central Government to an expert group for examination. In its report submitted to the government, the group has said that there was no need for such a terminal for the time being. At present there are two terminals for handling offshore gas. One is at Uran in Maharashtra and the other at Hazira in Gujarat. The Uran terminal can handle about 12.5 million cubic metres of gas per day. This capacity will go up to 14.5 million cubic metres per day after the completion of Hazira-Uran pipeline next year. The

total commitment for various consumers in Maharashtra is 16 million cubic metres of gas per day. The second terminal at Hazira can handle 20 million cubic metres of gas per day. While five million cubic metres is used by consumers at Hazira itself, the rest is intended to be utilised by various consumers along the Hazira-Bijaipur-Jagdishpur (HBJ) gas pipeline.

The Central government is, however, exploring the possibility of setting up a third terminal for handling offshore gas at Pipavav on the Saurashtra coast. This is being explored in the context of setting up of a power plant at Pipavav by bringing the gas from the Tapti fields in the western offshore region. It has been estimated that about three million cubic metres of gas per day can be brought from the Tapti fields to Pipavav.

The government is also examining the possibility of providing facilities for import of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) at Kandla to handle four lakh cubic metres of gas per annum. The Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL) are also thinking of enhancing their capacity to handle the import of LPG. While IOC is examining the feasibility of using ONGC's single buoy mooring system under construction at Hazira, BPCL and HPCL are thinking of augmenting import facilities at Bombay and Vizag to meet the growing demand for LPG in the country.

## MP REFINERY

The Union Government has taken a decision that Bharat Petroleum will set up a six million tonne refinery at a cost of Rs. 2,500 crores in Madhya Pradesh. This information was given by the Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister, Mr. Motilal Vora, at N. Delhi after a meeting with Mr. R.K. Gajari, Chairman of Bharat Petroleum. According to an official release, proposals for first stage clearance of the project are currently being processed.



# Secretaries panel okays ONGC production plan

The committee of secretaries has approved the dynamic production plan (DPP) of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) which seeks to raise oil production from west coast offshore areas from 21.6 million tonnes slated for the terminal year of the current Plan to 30 million tonnes annually by the end of the next Plan.

According to Mr. H.K. Khan, Secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, DPP, which will be given a final shape by the committee shortly, provides for innovative approach to the development of the field.

It seeks to focus on the development of the entire area rather than on an isolated project. Development of infrastructure for the whole area and integration of various schemes will be attempted under this plan.

The concept of DPP has been evolved in light of the fact that the present system of applying parameters of evaluation of engineering industry to oil and gas projects does not result in the optimum use of resources in the latter case. It is felt that parameters cannot be frozen in the development of oil-related facilities as in the case of an engineering project.

Experience shows that in many cases, exploration and exploitation are concurrent calling for mid-course changes for optimisation with new data resulting in upgradation of reserves or flow rate.

For example, the geological reserves of Bombay offshore have undergone changes with time. The reserves that were estimated at 512 million tonnes in 1975, moved up to 1850 million tonnes in 1985 and as per the latest estimates now stand at 2,286 million tonnes.

Apart from aiming to hit a production target of 30 million tonnes of oil by the

end of the next Plan, DPP seeks corresponding growth in reserve accretion, LPG production, rig deployment numbers and platform numbers. The Plan, in Government circles, is considered ambitious but technically feasible with suitable policy initiatives.

The production outlook, projected by DPP, is based on reserves already established. Prospects of addition to these reserves are considered bright in official circles in view of a large part of prognostic resource base yet to be converted to geological reserves.

All the proposals under DPP will be considered as one basket for all Government sanctions. Oil and Natural Gas Commission is expected to meet the targets fixed for the field while working within a given framework of total outlays, time schedules and unit cost per barrel of oil.

In addition to increase in oil production, gas output from the western offshore is also going to rise significantly. As against an expected production level of 25 million cubic metres of gas per day during 1989-90, the production (including free and associated gas) is expected to be around 48-49 million cubic metres per day by the terminal year of the next Plan. The new fields such as mid and south Tapti, S-1 of Bombay High, B-55 and South Bassein gas field would contribute to this production.

Twentyfive new discoveries have been made in the western offshore since 1980, comprising 13 oil, 6 oil and gas and 6 gas discoveries.

The latest state-of-art technologies such as sub-sea completion, multiple well completion and horizontal drilling which were introduced successfully during the Seventh Plan would be used on a wider scale in the next Plan.

## ONGC GROUP GATHERING STATION AT NARIMANAM

Oil & Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) has completed construction of its first group gathering station for oil and gas handling at Narimanam, T. jore. The facilities, designed for 15 million cubic metres per day of oil and its associated gas, have been put to trial use and loading of oil into road tankers from there has also commenced. The Narimanam structure now produces over 500 metric tonnes of oil and associated gas a day. The facilities at the group gathering station include flow-lines, and gas separators, storage tanks and a road tanker loading system.

## MITCO BAGS EXPORT ORDER WORTH Rs. 4.5 CRORES

The Mica Trading Corporation India (MITCO) has bagged orders for export of mica based products worth over Rs. 4.5 crores to several foreign countries including the Soviet Union, Japan, South Korea and Singapore. It stipulated for supply during the current financial year, MITCO sources said.

A MITCO delegation led by chairman-cum-managing director, visited the USSR recently and secured a contract for Rs. 3 crores for supply of mica based products before November this year.

The MITCO also clinched an order for supply of 126 tonnes of mica paste to Japan valued at Rs. 77.6 lakhs. South Korea, the sources said, had placed orders for supply of 75 tonnes of mica paper per month and samples have already been sent to them for evaluation.

A protocol had been signed with Singapore for sale of mica based products and it was likely that the country would depute a high-level team for finalising long term business with MITCO for supply of mica products in Singapore and Malaysia.



## EXPLORATION AND DRILLING

## Birlas to team up with 2 Soviet companies

Birlas have proposed a joint venture with the Soviets for undertaking oil exploration and drilling, both onshore and offshore, in India and third countries. According to the proposal Birla Engineering Services will form a joint venture with two Soviet companies Zarnefststroy and Machinoimport.

The proposal envisages that Birla Engineering Services and associates will hold 60% equity and the two Soviet companies 40% equity. The total Soviet investment will come to Rs. 10 crores while Rs. 15 crores, will be raised by the Birla company and its associates. There is also a proposal that Birlas may take part of their share of 60% equity through public subscription.

The joint venture will also take up exploration operations, seismic survey, data processing, perforation and logging services, cementation

services and mud engineering production testing and other services relating to oilfield. The two Soviet companies will provide the proposed joint venture with access to latest technology on a continuous basis. They will also provide training to Indian personnel in the Soviet Union.

According to the proposal, the joint venture will start its initial operations by acquiring two onshore drilling rigs. These rigs, which will be capable of drilling to a depth of 5000 metres, will be offered to Oil India and ONGC in India, and clients in other countries on charter-hire basis.

It is proposed that the joint venture company will acquire technical equipment from Soviet Union on soft credit and deferred payment basis. Technical knowhow for oil field services will be provided by the two Soviet companies

on mutually settled terms. The Birlas have claimed that on the basis of the present drilling plans of the Oil India and ONGC, the proposed joint venture will be able to save about Rs. 4.5 crores per year of foreign exchange in the next five to ten years since no payment will be required to be made in hard currency. The joint venture proposal is now being examined by the government.

## DAVY SETS UP ACRYLIC FIBRE COMPANY IN THAILAND

Davy Powergas of Bombay has commissioned Thailand's first acrylic fibre plant for the Thai Acrylic Fibre Co. Ltd. The entire engineering details, project management and construction supervision services for the plant were provided by Davy Powergas. The engineering, procurement, construction and mechanical commissioning was completed in a record time of 22 months. The plant is based on the Japan Exlan process and the process design package was provided by KHI of Japan.

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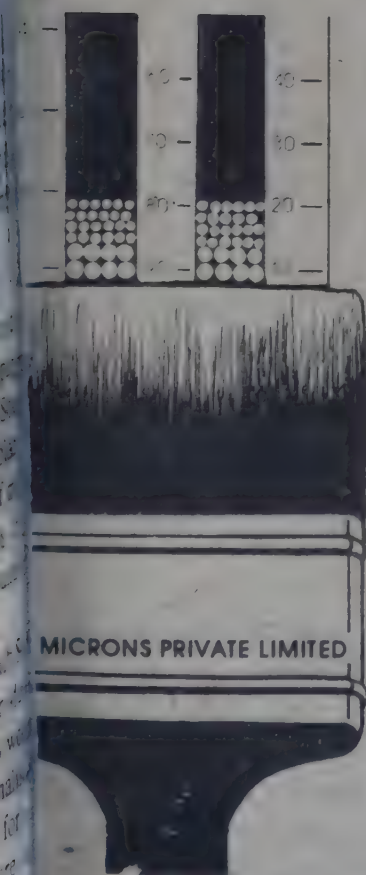
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## ONGC to drill more areas in Assam

The Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) will expand its exploratory activities to more areas of the Assam shelf and the Assam-Arakan fold belt i.e. the entire north-eastern region where the prognosticated hydrocarbon resources are placed at 2,000 million tonnes.

Out of this, 525 million tonnes have already been converted into geological reserve and as on January 1 this year, the region achieved a reserve accretion of 113 million tonnes (74.4 per cent) against the target of 153 million tonnes set for the Seventh Plan. According to a release from the eastern region business centre (ERBC) of ONGC at Nazira, activities in the north-eastern region have been stepped up three folds since 1980-81. The rig-count has increased to 37 from 13 rigs in 1980-81.

Production of crude oil by the ONGC in the region has progressively increased to 3.09 million tonnes. The Seventh Plan envisages a total production of 15.03 million tonnes from the region with a terminal year production of 3.1 million tonnes. The targeted production of crude oil during 1989-90 is 3.4 million tonnes.

The identified thrust areas of the ONGC in the region include the Khoraghat-Uriamghat areas in Dhansiri valley project which has been termed as highly prospective area. Other priority areas for intensive exploration activities include three dimensional surveys in Rudrasagar area, exploratory drilling at Dimapur, Bandarsulia, Sridharpur, Govindpur, Khasimara, delineation of Demulgaon, Sonari, Khoraghat, Uriamghat, Adamtilla, Banskandi and development drilling at Demulgaon and Sonari. As regards the expansion of activities to more areas, it is stated that Mizoram forming a part of the Assam-Arakan fold belt has estimated hydrocarbon resources of 173 million tonnes.

ONGC has spudded the first well in May this year at Rengte, 75 km south of Silchar and will drill to a targetted

depth of 3,000 m, and has also planned to drill three more wells in Mizoram. The hydrocarbon resources of Meghalaya are placed at 100 million tonnes. The ONGC proposes to take up drilling at Khasimara structure in East Khasi Hills district at a place 60 km south east of Shillong to a depth of 2,500 metres. Till March 1989, ONGC carried out 11,028 sq. km. of geological surveys in Meghalaya.

The prognosticated resources of Manipur are of the order of 35 million tonnes. During the current year, and also in the initial period of the Eighth Plan, ONGC proposes to undertake detailed geoscientific surveys in Manipur, drilling for oil in Tripura, where large deposits of gas have already been formed, will soon commence in the Hararganj area.

Since commencement of its operations in the north-eastern region in 1950, the ONGC has identified more than 130 structures of which 50 structures have been explored so far by drilling. The south Brahmaputra valley has been a fairly well-explored area.

So far ONGC has established Lakwa-Lakhmani, Rudrasagar, Geleki, Demulgaon in Brahmaputra valley, Changpang field in Schuppen belt of Nagaland, Borholla field in Dhansiri valley, Rokhia, Baramura and Agartala gas field in Tripura and Badarpur field in Surma valley.

The ONGC has set up an ambitious target for the region for the Eighth Plan period. Crude production will increase from 3.51 million tonnes in 1990-91 to 5.11 million tonnes by 1994-95 (the terminal year of the Eighth Plan), gas production from 808 million cubic metres to 1095 million cubic metres, drilling rigs from 39 to 48, drilling meterage from 2.9 lakh metres to 3.53 lakh metres and the number of wells will go up from 86 to 117.

Besides, there is a proposal for setting up of an LPG plant with an annual capacity of 85,000 tonnes by 1994 to serve an additional 5,000 families in Assam. During the current year itself, ONGC is completing a Rs. 26-crore project for installing three gas-based captive power plants at Lakwa, Geleki and Rudrasagar fields for supplying power to the oilfields.

It is stated that in the eastern region the gas utilisation percentage reached over 80 per cent as a result of skilful monitoring of demand. Till the completion of downstream facilities, the committed offtake of gas by consumers will further improve the utilisation percentage. During the last year, ONGC supplied about 230.676 million cubic metres of gas to various consumers in Assam.

It has started supply of domestic gas to Sibsaigar town to meet an estimated daily demand of 10,000 cubic metres. Nazira town will be supplied an estimated 20,000 cubic metres per day soon. Meanwhile, it has agreed to supply 20,000 cubic metres of gas per day to the Nagaland Pulp and Mills at Tuli.

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### IISCO TO INVEST Rs. 200 CRORES ON POLLUTION CONTROL

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The Indian Iron and Steel Corporation (IISCO), a subsidiary of the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), plans to invest over Rs. 200 crores in introducing the latest pollution control technology.

After modernisation, a practically new integrated steel plant is expected to be commissioned by 1995-96. It will adopt extensive dust extraction system with cyclones/bag filter recycling facilities at the raw material handling yard, cast house stock of the new blast furnaces, continuous casting plant, and lime plant.



## NON-ASSOCIATED GAS

### UK firm to help OIL

Oil India Ltd. has hired a British firm to help it prepare a master plan for the development of non-associated gas reservoirs discovered in Assam some time ago. According to OIL sources, Wellbore Ltd. of the UK has won the 30 lakh consultancy contract. The other firms in the race were International Petroleum Engineering Consultants Ltd., and Robertson Eric Ltd. from the UK, SSI and Improved Petroleum Recovery International Ltd. of the US and Total Compagnie Francaise Des Petroles of France.

The consultant is expected to review the structural picture, determine the gas place and conduct detailed geological and reservoir engineering studies using both analytical techniques and reservoir simulation. The consultant will make alternative development plans with optimisation on well completion design and surface facilities network.

Economic analysis will follow the various development plans to arrive at a tentative optimum development plan for the non-associated gas resources. The non-associated gas reserves are spread over several areas in the oilfields. The major known accumulations are mostly confined to two adjacent major oil-field areas — Nahorkatiya and Jorjan. Only a small amount of this gas has till now been produced on occasional demands to meet the peak market requirements. All the non-associated gas wells which are occasionally put on production lie in and around these oilfield areas.

Based on the present estimates, it is likely that once developed, these non-associated gas reservoirs will produce at a rate of 2.5 million standard cubic metres of gas per day. At present, there are about 12 discrete areas where natural gas reservoirs have been discovered. Most of these are located within a distance of about 25 km radius from Duliajan, Assam.

The total number of existing wells having mainly gas prospects in these areas is around 40 out of which about

25 are presently completed as gas wells. Few of the wells have oil prospects in addition to gas pay zones. The gas accumulations mainly occur in faulted miocene and oligocene sandstone reservoirs located at a depth range of 2200 metres to 3500 metres. Gas reservoirs are also located in eocene sandstone formations at a depth of about 3500 metres in one of the areas.

Recent interest in obtaining additional gas supplies in the Jorhat areas mainly for setting up a combined cycle gas-based power plant generating 360 mw of power has prompted OIL to engage the consultant from the UK to assess the reservoirs and work out a development plan for these non-associated gas reservoirs. As per the integrated gas grid in Assam worked out by Gas Authority of India Ltd. to connect OIL's fields and ONGC's eastern region fields, a trunk pipeline 132 km long from Nahorkatiya to Jorhat, with

a compressor station at Nahorkatiya, may be set up to transport OIL's free gas and surplus associated gas.

A spurline of 18 from Lakwa to Moran on the trunk pipeline will transport ONGC's surplus associated gas. The capital investment for laying the trunk and spurlines would be about Rs. 160 crores. The trunk pipeline can be extended to other parts of Assam as and when additional gas becomes available. The majority of oil/gas fields in upper Assam valley lie in the south-eastern part of a hidden basement high. The alluvium-covered foreland shelf zone of upper Assam which is a part of the major Assam-Arakan basin forms the north-eastern corner of the Indian sub-continent. The bulk of the hydrocarbons discovered so far in the region is contained in the upper barails of oligocene age and in the tipams of miocene age. The presence of producible oil and gas has also been established in older eocene rocks and also in younger girujan clay formations of upper miocene age in some areas of the upper Assam basin.

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## ASSOCHAM calls for greater availability of raw materials

The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) has called for greater availability of certain raw materials, both in terms of quantity and quality, in critical sectors so as to step up industrial growth to 10 to 11 per cent, in the current year and also in the Eighth Plan period as against nine per cent in 1988-89.

According to the ASSOCHAM study on "industrial sector: problems and prospects", the shortages of raw material and their irregular supply have hampered the growth of certain industries. The electrical equipment sector experiences difficulty in procuring PVC resin, copper, plasticiser and steel wire. Also, the quality of indigenous PVC compound and resin is not up to the required standards. The non-electrical machinery is affected by shortage of pig iron, ferro silicon and certain steel items. The difficulty is also experienced in regard to lead time and supply of material according to the specifications.

The pharmaceutical sector is handicapped because of erratic supply of inputs like heavy chemicals and polymers for packaging. The high prices of these items escalate the cost of end products. Inadequate availability of aluminium ingots, steel scrap, CR coils, zinc, etc. limits the production of metal and metal products. In petrochemicals, the plastic resins are not available in adequate quantities. Difficulty is also experienced in regard to specialised plastic resins which are not manufactured in India. The chemical sector finds difficulty in procuring solvents like toluene, xylene, titanium dioxide.

The synthetic fibre industry faces shortages of basic raw materials like caprolactam, DMT and MEG, while the uneven quality of coal supplied to cement plants results in various kinds of operational constraints. According to the study, while industries generally do

not have any problem in importing raw materials which are on the OGL list or are being canalised through MMTC, chemicals and petrochemical units experience delays in procuring the items in the restricted list due to cumbersome procedures.

Certain other units particularly those engaged in production of automobile parts, automobile tyres and steel are affected by high customs duty on certain imported inputs. Some of the units, particularly in electrical and non-electrical machinery and pharmaceuticals find that domestic prices are much higher than the cost of imported raw materials. Also, the quality of imported raw materials is superior than that of the indigenously procured items.

### GLASS INDUSTRY MAY BE ALLOWED TO RAISE CAPACITY

The Government is likely to allow enhancement of production capacity for glass and glassware industry. However, it would be subject to export obligation. This was announced by the Minister of State for Commerce, Mr. Priya Ranjan Dasmunshi, at New Delhi on August 10, at the 45th annual session of the All-India Glass Manufacturers Association.

The Minister urged the industry to come up with concrete proposals for increasing glass and glassware production in the country so that these would be processed in consultation with other Ministries and concerned departments.

He said that glass and glassware exports have not kept pace with the growth in world trade. He assured the industry of the Government's full support in tapping the vast potential of this important non-traditional sector. The industry on its part should make greater efforts to increase exports which presently average around Rs. 42 crores annually, Mr. Dasmunshi added.

The Government is willing to consider review of cash compensatory support (CCS) rates for glass and glassware if the industry comes up with the revised data justifying such a review. Meanwhile, on the basis of data already submitted by exporters, the Government has decided to grant CCS at the rate of five per cent for glass and glassware products. CCS for flat glass has been granted at eight per cent including shipping and wire glass.

### STRINGENT RULES FOR WASTE DUMPING

Import of hazardous wastes from any foreign country, for dumping and disposal in India will not be permitted under the new hazardous wastes (management and handling) rules, 1989. However, import of such wastes may be allowed for processing or reuse as a raw material under stringent conditions, according to the rules, a copy of which was tabled in the Rajya Sabha on August 10 by the Environment and Forests Minister, Mr. Z.R. Ansari.

The exporting country or exporter, as the case may be, should notify the Indian Government of proposed transboundary movement of hazardous wastes. The Government will grant permission for import of wastes subject to certain conditions.

Any importer of hazardous wastes should also provide information to the state pollution control board about the type of waste he is to import. The rules require that the Centre or the State Pollution Control Board inform the concerned port authority to take appropriate steps regarding the safe handling of wastes at the time of off-loading from ships.

Under the rules, it will be responsibility of the State Governments to undertake a continuing programme to compile and publish an inventory of sites within their territorial jurisdiction at which wastes have been stored.



## Insurance to Maharashtra mineral units

The Maharashtra Industries Secretary, Mr. S.G. Kale has assured the mineral units in the State that the Government would look into their problems. He also called for upgrading of the quality of minerals. Inaugurating the 10th Annual General Meeting of the Maharashtra Mineral Merchants and Manufacturers Association of India at Bombay on August 5, Mr. Kale lamented that a number of businessmen were unaware of the Government document on State industrial policy, which was freely available. Not many mineral units have claimed the package of incentives available to units desirous of shifting out of Bombay, he said, adding that businessmen lacked awareness of incentives provided by the State Government in this regard. He clarified that the location policy of the State Government did not compel any industrial unit to shift out of Bombay.

On the issue of 10 per cent sales tax on minerals, Mr. Kale sought more information from mineral units. Octroi is a complex issue Mr. Kale said it was not possible to abolish income tax and excise duties. He promised members that he would take up these issues with the Union Government. On mineral units' plea to reduce power tariff, he said that the revision of power tariff was avoidable even though the power situation was not so bright in Maharashtra. The State managed to meet the demand of the industry, he said.

Mr. Girish C. Choksey, president of the association said that the availability of minerals was very poor and it was further aggravated due to export of certain minerals resulting in shortages and unprecedented increase in cost. Giving an example of superior grade barytes, he said that the cost of this mineral had gone up by more than 50 per cent due to exports.

Mr. Choksey lamented that the increase in Railway freight in the last year was by about 15 per cent along with poor minerals availability of wagon

had affected the movement to increase in the cost. The road freight was likely to further increase by about 20 per cent due to the recent amendment in Motor Vehicles Act. Even though Maharashtra is not much endowed with mineral wealth it was the largest mineral consuming State. A substantial quantity of the country's industrial minerals are consumed in Maharashtra and exported through Bombay port.

Mr. Choksey highlighted the various problems faced by the mineral units in the State such as royalty cess and other charges, modernisation of power tariff, sales tax and octroi. He made a plea that the benefit of Section 80 HHC of the Income-Tax Act should not be denied to processed minerals export.

Mr. Choksey mooted that mineral grinding should be excluded from the definition of manufacture for the purpose of excise as was the case prior to

1986. He said that the Railway should charge concessional rate of freight on minerals, considering the low value of minerals.

### INVESTMENT LIMIT FOR SSI

The Federation of Associations of Small Industries of India (FASII) has demanded the investment ceiling limit on plant and machinery for SSI be raised to Rs. 50 lakhs from the present Rs. 35 lakhs. At the same time it has opposed clubbing investment on plant and machinery. This, the standing committee of the organisation which met at Madras for the first time, felt would discourage the entrepreneurs. Mr. P.B. Duggal, president of FASII, briefing newsmen on the deliberations of the committee, stated that the meeting "condemned" representations being given on various official committees to individuals and proprietary concerns under the garb of 'exports'. It demanded such representation be given to institutions and associations only.

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## Conversion of ad valorem duties ruled out

Mr. K.L. Rekhi, Chairman, Central Board of Excise and Customs, has said that it would not be feasible to convert duties from ad valorem to specific rates, as the former offered the requisite degree of built-in progression, which was justified. He has favoured a mixed structure of duties.

Addressing a meeting organised by the Indian Merchants' Chamber at Bombay on August 10, Mr. Rekhi said that for a country like India, where four fifth of the revenue came from indirect taxation, the Central Board of Excise and Customs had to take revenue maximisation as a constant and a serious exercise while minimising multi-point taxation. He regretted that attempts to collect larger amounts of revenue by lowering taxes and creating more demand had not worked in the past as the concessions were not passed on to the consumers in terms of lower prices. As for the high duty on capital goods, he asserted that the nascent indigenous capital goods industry had to be protected.

Mr. Rekhi justified the serving of show cause notices to all directors connected or otherwise for the purpose of investigation on the ground that initially the Department had no way of identifying the official concerned.

Responding to the difficulties experienced in dealing with the tribunals, Mr. Rekhi stated that they were being upgraded and restructured in the country. The number of tribunals is likely to go up to 23 from the present 12 according to him. He promised a sympathetic look into the problems presented by the members.

Earlier, welcoming the gathering, Mr. Rohit J. Patel, President, IMC, outlined certain problems at the macro level, which needed urgent attention; if the Government policy of increasing industrial production were to fructify. He pointed out that as the high import tariff was affecting production, a graduated structure with raw materials at the lower

end of the scale and components and finished goods at a slightly higher level should be devised.

Mr. Patel pointed out that specific duty rate would be more advisable than ad valorem in the context of declining value of rupee. He urged the setting up of special bench in Bombay and highlighted that in case of alleged violation of law by the assesses, show cause notices should not be served on all directors, irrespective of whether they were actively connected with the management.

Addressing another meeting organised at Bombay on August 10 by the All-India Association of Industries, Mr. Rekhi said that out of the total revenue of Rs. 50,000 crores, over Rs. 40,000 crores came from customs and excise.

Responding to the request for concession on basic excise duty on branded goods manufactured by the small units, Mr. Rekhi said that the benefits given to branded name really went to the large manufacturer whose brandname was used by the small-scale manufacturer. "We do not want to lose our revenue and benefit the big man at the cost of the small man", he said.

Replying to the question why computers are removed from small sector, Mr. Rekhi stated categorically that the decision was deliberate because, "we do not want to encourage kit culture. It is beyond the capacity of the small-scale sector to keep pace with the technological changes taking place in the world".

Earlier the AIAI President, Mr. Vijay Kalantri, pointed out that the tariff rate and the procedures in India are one of the highest and most cumbersome amongst the developing countries. Mr. Rekhi also addressed a meeting organised by the All-India Manufacturers' Organisation.

Mr. R.M. Dujodwala, President, AIMO, said that lately there had been a tendency in the revenue department to look upon the assesses with distrust

and suspicion and this had been causing friction between the tax payers and tax collectors.

He mooted ground rules for customs and excise as had been done in the case of Income-Tax Department. Mr. Dujodwala said that the preventive staff of excise should enter the factory premises only during general shifts and any odd hour or holidays or night shifts.

### GUARANTEE PERIOD FOR DUTY EXEMPTION SCHEME REDUCED

The guarantee period under the duty exemption scheme by a bank has been reduced from five years to three years.

A release from the Office of Chief Controller of Imports and Exports said para ten in Appendix X (indemnity-cum-guarantee bond) of export obligations to be executed under duty exemption scheme against Appendix XIX-H-indemnity-cum-guarantee bond form of export obligations to be executed by the intermediate manufacturer under duty exemption scheme against intermediate ad valorem licences has been modified to read as follows:

"This guarantee by the guarantor bank hereunder shall remain in force till... (for a period of three years from the date of the execution of the bond) if no claim is made by the Government within the said date, the guarantor will be discharged of all the liabilities of payment under this guarantee."

It is further agreed that in the event of all the obligations of this indemnity-cum-guarantee bond not being duly discharged to the satisfaction of the Government by the aforesaid date the guarantor and the importer shall either renew or retrieve the validity of the guarantee for a further period as may be required by the Government or the guarantor shall pay at any time prior to the expiry of the indemnity-cum-guarantee without any demur, the amount to be demanded by the Government.



## POTLIGHT ON

# Biotechnology & Life Sciences (Part 2)

### GOLD PROBE' KIT DETECTS GOLD ON SITE

Canadian prospectors may soon use biological tools to pan gold with a kit called 'Gold Probe', which uses antibodies to detect the metal in soil. Genprobe Technologies, a biotech company based in Sydney, British Columbia, Canada had developed "Gold Probe", which detects spores of a bacterium, *Bacillus cereus*, in samples of soil. *B. cereus* is a common soil microbe found in large numbers around mineral deposits, including gold.

Conventional geochemical assays rely on sophisticated techniques of spectrometry which involve atomising the gold in the sample with a very hot flame and measuring the amount of metal present in the sample from its characteristic absorption or emission of light. These techniques can be done only in a laboratory and geologists may have to wait between 2 to 3 weeks for results. Gold Probe works in the field and gives results in hours. Although it is not specific for gold, Gold Probe can pinpoint the most likely locations which geologists should explore further.

The idea of using bacterial path finders to find gold is not new. John Waterson, a chemist at the US Geological Survey in Denver, Colorado, says he became convinced in the early 1970s that geologists could use bacteria to look for minerals, including gold.

He suggested that over time, minerals reach into ground water and soils shift to create a mineralised halo around gold deposits. The halo, he believes, would consist of chemically active elements such as Cu, Pb and Cd. Their relative toxicity alters the pattern of microorganism that can survive in the soil.

For example, such soils enhance the growth of certain fungi which produces penicillin. The penicillin kills off some microbes, but leaves *B. cereus* to blossom. Waterson developed a conventional microbiological test which involved the culture soil samples in the laboratory. Genprobe Technologies have refined this technology for use in the field.

The principle behind Gold Probe exploits the ability of antibodies to lock on to specific targets, in this case proteins on the outer coat of the spores of the bacterium. The more the spores, the more antibodies will bind to a particular sample. The key element in the kit is a strip, half a centimetre wide and pock marked with wells that contain different amounts of antibody. Each antibody is attached to a dye which turns blue when the antibody hooks onto a spore.

In the field the geologists place samples of soil in a grid tray. They then fit each sample with a cap holding the strip of antibodies. The spores are free to latch onto the antibodies in the wells and geologists can measure the number of spores in each sample by comparing the blue colour of the wells with a standard. (*New Sc.*, 3/25/89, p. 30).

### BIOTECH RESEARCH OFFERS PROTECTION TO FOOD CROPS AGAINST VIRUSES

No chemical pesticide in the market today can fight viruses that affect crops reports Christine Newell, a virus research authority at Monsanto (St. Louis, USA). The company Monsanto (a leader in plant biotech research) has decided to attack the problem from another angle — developing crops that are resistant to viruses. Monsanto has come up with genetically engineered potatoes that resist the potato virus X and Y which cause millions of dollars

in damage annually to the \$2 billion US potato crop.

Monsanto is also working on mosaic virus resistance in tomatoes and insect resistance for cotton. This is the first time genetically engineered protection against two viruses has been demonstrated in Russell Burbank potatoes — the major commercial variety grown in USA. Researcher Newell notes however that several years of research are ahead before such potatoes can be on the retail market. Monsanto expects they will make debut in the mid-1990s. (*Chem Wk.*, 2/15/89, p. 26).

### PHOTOTACTIC ALGAE UNVEILED

Phototactic algae, which move in response to light contain photoreceptor pigments that behave in many ways like the rhodopsin present in higher vision systems. Rhodopsin consists of the protein opsin and the polyene cis-retinal. When exposed to light, cis-retinal isomerises to trans-retinal, a reaction that initiates changes in rhodopsin. These changes culminate in nerve impulses perceived as light. "Blind" mutant strains of the algae that lack retinal also lack phototactic ability. Phototaxis can be restored however, by incubation with retinal analogies.

Although bovine and algae rhodopsin systems have been thought to be similar both in mechanism of action and genomically, these studies indicate that the algae photoreceptor is not activated by a cis/trans isomerisation of a polyene. The prokaryotic mechanism should be of great aid in development of artificial light sensitive systems, for activating retinal analogies are much simpler in structure than those found in eukaryotes. (*J. Am. Soc.*, 1988, 100, 6589 *Chemtech*, 4/1989, p. 197).



## THE SAGA OF BIOTECH RENNIN

Rennin, a milk clotting enzyme used in the manufacture of cheese, is a unique example of a replacement product developed by biotechnology. Current worldwide sales of rennin are approximately \$50 million. More than half of the rennin sold today is derived from its natural source, the fourth stomach of the unweaned calf. Unfortunately, the supply of this enzyme has recently become scarce because of the combined effects of decreased veal consumption and increased cheese consumption. Although microbial substitutes are marketed, they are generally not used for higher quality cheeses, because they tend to generate undesirable flavours.

These factors made calf rennin an attractive target for the biotech researchers in industry. First the enzyme is cloned, then it is produced via a bio-process utilising a recombinant micro-organism that expresses the gene. These research endeavours were successful. Recently collaborative research received a patent for the production of rennin using this biotech route.

## AN UPDATE ON THE OUTLOOK FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY IN USA

What is the outlook for biotechnology in USA? What will be the major trends? It is poised for explosive new growth of simply looking at steady, evolutionary progress, what direction will it take?

The biotech industry in USA is moving into a rapid growth phase. The flow of products has so far been only a trickle. The rate of product production will undoubtedly increase dramatically during the next few years (refer Table).

Most products will be for the pharmaceutical market, where the technology is further long than in other sectors and where profit expectations are the highest. However, research in agriculture and other areas has advanced faster than was first anticipated. With all the new products entering the market place in the coming decade, the biotech industry in USA should grow at a compound rate of about 30% per annum through the end of the century.

As the industry enters its growth phase, marketing will steal the limelight from R & D in terms of relative strategic importance. Management style and corporate strategy will need to shift as cost control and cost cutting become key. The critical challenge will be to manage the shifting financial, marketing regulatory and production priorities.

Industry consolidation will continue, if not accelerate. Already fewer new companies are being started. Mergers and acquisitions will almost certainly become more frequent. It is anticipated that in ten years, the number of independent biotech companies will be half of what it is today.

The biotech industry in USA is entering a dynamic new growth phase. During the coming years a significant flow of new products will be entering the market, pushing industry beyond \$10 billion within ten years.

As products continue to push through the development and testing stages, marketing decisions will become crucial. Competition from other biotech blue-chip companies will intensify, often crowding the same markets with similar products.

This competitive situation will call for a good marketing plan that is more essential. Product strategy and marketing strategy will be vital for success in biotech enterprise. (*Chemist*, 4/1989, p. 220, 218).

## IMMUNOLOGY LIMITED — NEW UK BIOTECH FIRM

Some heavy weight academics and industry-based scientists are behind the new UK biotech company called Immunology Ltd. It has been set up to concentrate on cell biology and genetic engineering in order to develop the generation of therapeutic products based on immunology.

Immunology Ltd. has been established in Cambridge by Dr. John Munro, previously head of immunology division at Cambridge University and Dr. Stephen Bunting, a director of Abingworth Management.

The new company is currently in the process of recruiting a chief executive officer to head the management team which consists of Dr. Munro as research director and Dr. Bill Duncan, ex-deputy chairman of ICI Pharmaceuticals as non-executive chairman. Dr. Bunting and Dr. Combes formerly pharmaceutical R & D director of Hoechst are now executive directors. (*Chemist*, 4/1989, p. 7).

Table

Summary of New US Biotech Sales forecasts by Key Market Segments 1993 and 1998 (million 1988 dollars)

Key sectors	Base year	Forecast years	
	1988	1993	1998
Human therapeutics	500	1585	5465
Human diagnostics	290	680	2005
Agriculture	35	530	2065
Specialities	50	175	900
Contaminant monitoring	5	75	200
Total (average)	880	3045	10635



## **CENTRE FOR BIO-CATALYSIS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY ESTABLISHED IN USA**

A newly created Centre of Biocatalysis Science & Technology is starting up at Utah State University with a grant of \$670 000 from the Utah Department of Community & Economic Development. The Centre is bringing up scientists and engineers from a variety of disciplines to develop new technology to observe enzymes.

The Centre represents the only effort in biocatalysis that combines basic and applied science for technology development according to the centre director, Linda S. Powers, who holds degrees in physics and physics with 12 years experience as a research scientist at AT & T Bell Laboratories. In cooperation with Utah State University Centre for Process Engineering, Biocatalysis Centre researchers will develop time resolved instrumentation. (*C & EN*, 1/16/89, p.

## **INDIVIDUAL DNA MOLECULES SERVED IN GELS UNDER A FLUORESCENT MICROSCOPE**

Individual DNA molecules stained with dye can be observed under a fluorescent microscope mending their way through agarose gels during electrophoresis, according to researchers from the University of Washington, Seattle.

Knowing how the molecules migrate will help in improving separation of the DNA strands, report researchers from the Department of Genetics. They find that the DNA molecules move through the gel as if they were a string of beads confronting a lattice of obstacles. The DNA molecule alternately migrate in the direction of the field and in contract, sometimes forming a U shape when they get hooked around an obstruction. A video cassette showing individual molecules in motion is available from Instructional Media Services

SB-54, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash. 98195, USA. (*Science*, 243, 203, (1989)).

## **BIOTECH RESEARCH AT GENEX SPAWNS BIOADHESIVES FOR DENTAL AND MEDICAL USES**

Genex, a leading biotech firm in USA looks towards bioadhesives as the most promising products for the future. The company research on bioadhesives after Herbert White a professor of biochemistry at the Connecticut University, isolated a non-immunogenic adhesive derived from the blue sea mussel, while identifying the adhesive as a decapeptide.

In a separate effort Genex funded an in-house programme to clone the gene producing the non-immunogenic adhesive from the blue sea mussel. Genex now has a patent pending covering microbial production of its recombinant adhesive protein via a fermentation and purification process.

Genex ran into a problem with Bio Polymers (Farmington, Conn) that had an exclusive license to a prior University of Connecticut patent relating to mussel adhesives.

However, Bio Polymers, recently granted Genex a non-exclusive royalty bearing sub licence to the patent, thus ending a suit between the two companies.

With the patent dispute out of the way, Genex believes its process patent covers the lowest cost route to the mussel protein. The adhesive principal attribute is that it can stick to almost anything and stay glued to a surface even under water.

In mid-1984, the company formed a joint development programme with W.R. Grace & Co. The two companies are sharing research chores on FDA applications in which they are seeking approval for medical and dental uses

of the adhesives. According to David R Goodrich (vice-president of specialty projects at Genex), it will be 1992 at the earliest before Genex will be marketing biotech adhesive products.

But when approval is received, Genex is looking toward supplying a substantial market demand. At present Genex has scaled up to produce only milligram quantities for testing. Without its fermentation process, it would take between 50,000 to 100,000 mussels to produce first 1 gm of the adhesive material.

Medical adhesives of the future could either replace or serve as an adjunct to the suturing of wounds, allow bone and wound repair and provide for dental-bonding of caps and crowns. Further, they would be non-toxic, biocompatible and durable.

A recent market study by Business Communications, (Norwalk, Conn) estimated that the market for bioadhesives in USA alone will grow from \$12 million in 1983 to \$30 million in 1992. Goodrich foresees much greater opportunities for bioadhesives. For ophthalmic bioadhesives alone can achieve sale of \$100 million by the mid 1990s. (*C & EN*, 2/27/89, p. 46).

## **THE WORLD'S FIRST LARGE SCALE TRIAL OF BIOREMEDI- ATION BEGINS IN ALASKA**

EPA of USA will launch a bacterial clean-up experiment in June 1989 in Prince William Sound, Alaska, where the worst oil spill in US history occurred last March. It will mark the first large scale experiment in bioremediation, the use of microorganisms to clean up polluted water.

Scientists hope to eventually use specially bred bacteria to attack a variety of toxic chemical wastes such as creosote, dioxins, coal tar and solvents. (*CMR*, 5/29/89, p. 7).



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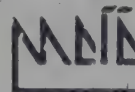
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## Science Briefs

### INDIA TO LAUNCH PROGRAMME ON MOLECULAR ELECTRONICS

The science of molecular electronics that seeks to bring about a synthesis of modern biology with physics for the development of a new breed of electronic devices is now emerging in India. Researchers at a workshop on molecular electronics organised in New Delhi recently drew up guidelines for a national programme that will aim at the indigenous development of molecular electronic devices like biosensors and hybrid transistors.

Atoms and molecules that make up all matter constantly exchange electrons among themselves. This electron transport leads to changes in the electrical and sometimes optical properties of molecules and forms the basis for molecular electronics. Molecular electronic devices are expected to have many advantages over conventional devices. They will be flexible, lighter, and their size, shape and properties could be controlled by chemical modification.

Perhaps the fastest growing area of molecular electronics is the field of biosensors which are highly sensitive devices designed to detect the presence of minute traces of substances. A biosensor works by converting the concentration of an analyte in an appropriate sample into an electrical signal using a biological sensing element which is integrated into a transducer.

In a biosensor, a biological substance is used for the specific recognition of the analyte in a sample. The substance responds with a change in one of its physiochemical parameters triggered off by the interaction with the sample. The signal can be translated into an electrical signal before it is amplified, digitized and recorded in a desired form. The contact between the biological and

electrochemical systems in biosensors is usually achieved by immobilisation of the biosensing element system on the transducer surface by using a physical restraint behind a polymer membrane or within a gel matrix.

Biosensors are simple-to-use devices, inexpensive, disposable and do not require reagents as most other conventional technologies for sample analysis do. Researchers believe that biosensors could soon be used for detecting explosives, and toxic pollutants in air and water. Researchers at the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science (IACS) in Calcutta have been investigating the properties of a group of pigment molecules called carotenoids.

IACS researcher Dr. T.N. Mishra and his colleagues have observed that the electrical properties of carotenoids are highly sensitive to the ambient atmosphere. The conductivity of certain carotenoids rises nearly a million times above the normal value when exposed to some gases. The molecules interact differently with different gases. This property, the IACS scientists believe, could be used to develop biosensors for specific gases.

Carotenoids are also highly sensitive to light. In some of these molecules there is a 1000-fold increase in electrical conductance when they are exposed to light. This makes it a promising material for the development of optical switches, Dr. Mishra who attended the New Delhi workshop said.

Some electroactive polymers also show photoconducting properties. Others respond electrically to pressure and temperature change and conversely develop mechanical distortion or a temperature change when subjected to an electrical field. This property can be used to make transducers in sensor.

Studies show that a conducting polymer called polypyrrole when immersed in an electrolyte exhibits behaviour sim-

ilar to that of a transistor. Research at the National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi who have synthesised a range of conducting polymers now to work on the fabrication of electronic devices. Initially the group will work on the development of diodes and transistors which will hybrid devices made of both conducting polymers and conventional solid state devices. "Our ultimate goal is to develop an organic device made completely from organic molecules", said Dr. B. Malhotra, researcher.

Scientists from the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in Bombay attended the workshop reported they have successfully immobilised a coenzyme called Nicotinamide Adenine Dinucleotide (NAD) on a clean surface of platinum. NAD is one of the most important enzymes involved in biological redox reactions. The study with this immobilised coenzyme shows that electrons can be made to flow from the platinum surface to the entrapped coenzyme molecule and the other way around by applying a suitable voltage. They also show that the immobilised NAD is optically active and can be switched chemically. This work opens up new vistas for utilising NAD in making molecular switches, researchers said in a paper presented at the workshop.

The electrical switching can be used for specific tasks in the fields of biomedical, bioengineering and chemical measurement, the team said in their paper.

The first phase of the research programme envisages work on three types of biosensors: one for glucose, one for urea and a third biosensor for the determination of pollution levels in water. The first two are expected to find industrial applications and the pollution detecting sensor could find use in environmental quality monitoring programmes.

P.T.I. Science Service



## ENGINEERED ENZYME WASHES DIRTIER THAN WHITE

During the next year, people in Europe should be able to buy washing powder containing an enzyme that can break down fats. Manufacturers have used enzymes in household detergents for several years because they can break down carbohydrates, proteins and nucleic acids in stains on clothing. Until now, no one has developed a commercially available enzyme that will break down fats, reports "New Scientist".

The new enzyme Lipolase is genetically engineered by the world's largest producer of industrial enzymes, a Danish company called Novo-Nordisk. The company, which manufactures insulin and human growth hormones as well as industrial enzymes claims that Lipolase is the first widely available industrial enzyme to have been produced by genetic engineering. The vast majority of enzymes used in detergents are produced by traditional fermentation technology rather than genetic engineering.

The search for an enzyme that will break down fats has proved to be the most difficult problem for detergent manufacturers and biotechnologists. In the hunt for a suitable enzyme, Novo-Nordisk investigated a range of enzymes called lipases which catalyse the breakdown of fats into fatty acids and glycerol. Molecular biologists at the company identified a fungus which will produce a specific type of lipase that is specialised at breaking down the fats found in human foods.

The geneticists identified the sequence of amino acids which make up the DNA of the fungus and cloned that sequence. They then spliced the section of the DNA which holds the gene that codes for the lipase into a new host organism, a filamentous fungus called *Aspergillus oryzae*. Novo Nordisk said that it will produce the lipase in

sufficient quantities to enable them to sell it at a reasonable rate to detergent manufacturers.

Novo claims that its Lipolase enzyme will work at low temperatures of today's washing cycles, and that it is washed away with the water leaving none on the clothes. It also claims that the genetically engineered enzyme will not irritate the skin. After a couple of days the enzyme breaks down in the environment to leave water, carbon dioxide and nitrogen, and Novo claims that it has no adverse effects on organisms living in water. Also, the genetically engineered *Aspergillus* fungus does not establish itself in the environment if accidentally released from the production plant, since it is much weaker than the parental strain.

P.T.I. Science Service

## DISTILLING SEA WATER THROUGH SOLAR ENERGY

A new method of distilling sea or brackish water through solar energy to make it potable or for use in lead acid batteries, has been developed by the Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad. The SAC director, Mr. Pramod Kale, said that by employing the technology and principles of operation of solar cookers and solar water heaters using the flat plate solar energy collectors, a unit comprising an insulator, evaporator, condenser and distilled water outlet has been developed.

The technique for distilling water was based on the premise that on a sunny day, one square metre of exposed water in a tank loses about four litres of water through evaporation. Since the evaporation occurred at a low temperature, if a unit was properly engineered, at least three litres of distilled water could be procured for every square metre of area exposed. At present the centre was distilling about six litres of water per day, which was free from all impurities. The material required for the construction of

the unit is easily available. Mr. Kale said the new technique could be useful in several parts of the country where fair weather prevailed, especially northern Gujarat, Rajasthan, northern parts of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu and coastal areas.

P.T.I. Science Service

## BIOGAS FOR COTTON SPINNING MILLS

Willow dust, a waste from cotton spinning mills that is used as a feedstock has successfully been tapped as an alternative to produce biogas by large-size plants. The new, improved technology and support facilities provide an economical and efficient method to produce a sizeable quantity of biogas and organic manure. In addition, it helps to solve the problem of pollution, and disposal of huge quantities of willow dust, a waste churned out daily by cotton spinning mills, according to a release from the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (DNES).

DNES, through its Biogas Research Centre at the College of Technology and Agriculture Engineering, Udaipur, has designed and set up such a plant at Udaipur Cotton Mills, in the city. The biogas plant has got a capacity to produce 20 cu. mt. of gas per day. The technology has several innovative and beneficial features in terms of quantity of gas generated, better quality manure, and reduction in the duration of slurry drying up as manure to five days compared to 10 days in the case of dung based slurry. The plant also provides for self-loading and unloading facility systems to separate the water from the slurry and its re-use for filling the plant.

The Udaipur Cotton Mills produces 125 kgs. of willow dust per day of which 100 kgs. are adequate to operate the plant. The gas produced from the plant is equivalent to 80 kgs. of wood equivalent per day. The production of dry manure is 2.5 tonnes per month



valued at Rs. 1,250. The slurry is a rich manure as it contains 1.5 to 1.7 per cent nitrogen. The plant is nine times more economical as it provides for cost savings incurred by textile mills on lifting, transporting and dumping the willow dust at distant places and the big chunk of land required for such disposal. The traditional method of disposal of willow dust is unhygienic, pollutes the environment through the foul smell that is emitted as the willow dust takes one year to decompose into organic manure. The plant is quite economical since its capital cost is only about Rs. 90,000.

Dr. Maheshwar Dayal, Secretary, DNES, has expressed the view that most of the cotton spinning mills in the country can set up such biogas plants and reap benefits of the new technology developed by indigenous efforts. A number of units under the National Textile Corporation have evinced keen interest in setting up of such plants. The technology developed at Udaipur is readily available almost free of cost for transfer to users.

P.T.I. Science Service

## LIGHT PROBES THE DEPTHS OF OIL SLICKS

Lasers are enabling scientists who assess oil slicks to make accurate measurements of the extent and thickness of spilt oil. Once the prototype for the detector is fully developed, it should dramatically improve techniques for monitoring and cleaning up oil in oceans and rivers, reports "New Scientist".

At present, people monitor oil slicks visually, either by plane or by boat, but this method is unreliable because many other features on water can resemble a slick. Even highly-experienced observers are frequently fooled by the so-called "wind slicks" — areas of calm beyond a stretch of water whipped up by the wind — and by patches of water whose varying temperatures give them different colours. Floating pine needles, seaweed, the sperms of whales and her-

ring, glacial runoff and large volumes of fresh water from a stream can also look like oil.

Conversely, observers frequently miss the oil on heavily fouled beaches that are very wet, or oil that has formed "sheens" — extremely thin slicks with only a few litres of oil spread over a square kilometre. The team that developed the laser detector drew its members from two organisations within the Canadian government, and from the Esso Resources Canada and the US Minerals Management Service.

The researchers claim that the detector is not fooled by "false" slicks and that it gives more precise information than a trained eye about the extent and thickness of spilt oil. It would enable those who clean up after an oil spill to use their equipment and resources more effectively, they claim. For example, vessels skimming the oil off the surface of the water must work at the thickest part of the slick if they are to be efficient. But it is virtually impossible to judge thickness of the slick by eye.

P.T.I. Science Service

## HIGH-YIELDING EUCALYPTUS

Scientists at the Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP) have identified several eucalyptus species that can yield large amounts of oil and timber. Following a vigorous screening programme involving about 40 diverse species of eucalyptus growing in the Kumaon region of Uttar Pradesh, scientists at the CIMAP Regional Centre, Pantnagar, Uttar Pradesh, have found that leaves of *Eucalyptus robertsoni* have an exceptionally high oil content with 75 per cent cineole (a colourless oil with a camphor-like odour, which is used in pharmaceuticals, perfumery and flavouring). The scientists, who have named the species "Super Cineole Plant" say this is the first instance of identifying *E. robertsoni* as a reservoir of eucalyptus oil rich in cineole.

Similarly, *Eucalyptus melanocephala* with 2.03 per cent oil containing 7 per cent cineole, was found to be most suitable for the Terai belt. While the use of eucalyptus trees is for paper, timber and fuel, the oil-bearing potential of their leaves and twigs has been wasted while felling the trees have been fully exploited.

## HYACINTH BIOMASS

Aquatic biomass bears some alleged characteristics which can be discounted by those concerned with developing new alternative sources of energy. The characteristics are: very high growth rate owing to a hydrous environment, unlimited annual production, considerable ability of absorbing dissolved or suspended in liquid wastes and as a result, increased efficiency in purifying wastes.

The most productive of these aquatic plants, the water hyacinth, is capable of surpassing a productivity of 5 tonnes under normal conditions also been proved to serve well as animal feed, and fertiliser (CEDUST).

## THE SUGAR SUBSTITUTE

The USA has plenty of corn but insufficient home-grown sugar. Food technology has provided a way of using corn to reduce sugar imports.

In 1970, the average American consumed about 100 lbs (45 kg) of sugar either as table sugar or as prepared food and drink. By 1975, consumption of sugar had dropped dramatically to about 63 lbs (29 kg). The explanation is not that vast numbers of Americans have gone on a diet avoiding sweet foods. In fact, the consumption of all calorie sweeteners per capital in the USA is now at a record. What has happened over this period is that to a large degree sugar has been replaced in the food and drink industry by high fructose corn syrup. This change will have gone on for



American consumers. HFCS has exactly the same properties as sugar, so processed food and drink taste the same.

#### with starch

Natural sugar is made from cane or sugar. HFCS is made from corn — a grain hardly renowned for its sweet taste but rich in starch. Using enzymes, starch can be broken down into simple sugars. The production of HFCS involves a three-step process. Firstly, the starch is liquefied into a stable dextrin solution using an alpha-amylase, for example Termamyl®. Then saccharifying enzymes such as Dextrozyme® are added to break down the dextrin almost completely to glucose. The final step is isomerisation where the purified glucose is converted into fructose by an immobilised glucose isomerase. Novo's Dextrozyme® was the first such immobilised enzyme produced and sold on an industrial scale. Immobilising the isomerase enables it to be used continuously for many months.

#### Similar to sugar

HFCS matches sugar in almost every respect — quality, degree of sweetness, caloric value. But unlike sugar, HFCS does not crystallize and is always supplied as a liquid. Therefore HFCS cannot be used where a dry sweetener is required, for example in dry mixes or most confectionery. Apart from a few exceptions, HFCS can replace sugar to a greater or lesser extent in a wide range of food and beverage applications.

Until the development of high fructose syrups in the late 1960s, glucose sweeteners made by the hydrolysis of starch had been on the market. However, due to their relatively low degree of sweetness compared to sugar, their use was limited to applications where their sweetening power was not the main consideration.

When high fructose syrups became available, they provided a real alterna-

tive to sugar. Although a number of synthetic sweeteners have since come onto the market, none has challenged the position of the high fructose syrups.

#### Two types

Two grades of high fructose corn syrups have established themselves on the American market — HFCS-42 and HFCS-55. They have the following compositions:

	HFCS-42	HFCS-55
Fructose	42%	55%
Glucose	50-53%	38-41%
Other sugars	5- 8%	4- 7%

HFCS-42 is slightly less sweet than sugar while HFCS-55 is slightly sweeter. The first grade is used in the baking industry for bread and cakes, in canned fruits and in dairy products such as drinks and frozen desserts.

The second grade was developed especially for the soft drinks industry and this is where the real breakthrough for HFCS occurred in the USA.

#### The cola breakthrough

Starting in the late 1970s, HFCS was used instead of sugar in non-cola soft drinks. In 1980s, HFCS was first used as 50% of the sweetener in Coca-Cola and likewise for Pepsi-Cola in 1983. By 1984, HFCS was approved to replace sugar totally in these world-famous brands.

Largely as a result, HFCS consumption rose by 1 million tons (dry basis) in 1985 — up by a quarter in a year. The significance of colas should not be underestimated. In 1985, about two-thirds of the US soft drinks market in terms of volume was accounted for by colas. They are part of the American way of life.

Today, the soft drinks industry as a whole uses about two-thirds of all the HFCS consumed in the USA. Sugar

sales to the soft drinks industry have been substantially reduced.

#### How much more HFCS

HFCS consumption in the USA grew rapidly from 0.5 million tons (dry basis) in 1975 to 5.4 million tons in 1988. Today, HFCS accounts for over a third of the caloric sweetener market.

Conditions in the USA have been extremely favourable for the growth of HFCS. Corn is plentiful and the USA was dependent on sugar imports. Furthermore, the US sugar market is regulated by government intervention; prices have been kept high to encourage domestic sugar production and the expansion of HFCS at the expense of sugar.

HFCS has consistently been priced at a level 10-30% cheaper than sugar and this has given sugar-users an incentive to switch. Industry sources, such as McKeany-Flavell, believe that HFCS penetration has reached a saturation point in the USA. HFCS has almost completely replaced sugar wherever technically feasible. The period of rapid growth is over.

The increased use of low-calorie sweeteners will also slow down the growth of HFCS. Take for example the cola companies that gave HFCS a seal of approval — they are also actively promoting diet colas.

#### Other markets

The USA is the most significant market for high fructose syrups and consumes about 75% of world production. Japan, the world's second largest importer of sugar, is another significant market for HFCS, as is South Korea.

In Europe, the promise of the isomerase enzyme process have never been fully realised in the member countries of the European Economic Community. Domestic sugar growers and refiners formed a strong lobby to fight the threat posed by high fructose syrups. As a



a result, quotas were introduced in 1977 and EEC production is strictly limited to about 320,000 tons (dry basis).

Major substitution of sugar by high fructose syrups has so far been confined to only a few countries. In the USA and Japan, the expansion of high fructose syrups has been helped by an artificially high price for sugar compared to the world market price.

Many other countries, particularly in Asia, are interested in reducing their dependence on sugar imports. The great advantage of high fructose syrups is that raw materials are available wherever a starch-containing crop is grown.

The source of starch need not be corn. Indonesian plants use tapioca starch; broken rice is used in Pakistan and wheat is used in Australia.

For countries in the tropical and sub-tropical regions, the use of manioc has great potential. In total, there are now about 80 commercial plants for producing high fructose syrups around the world.

#### Success story

For Novo, the starch industry is a very important market as it is the second largest industry segment for enzyme

sales. Sweetzyme, Novo's immobilised glucose isomerase, has been continually improved since its introduction in 1973. The latest version is Sweetzyme T, which gives up to 50% better syrup productivity than its predecessor Sweetzyme Q.

The enzymatic conversion of glucose to fructose on a huge industrial scale has been a big success story for biotechnology, especially in the USA. Without enzymes, high fructose syrups could never have been made.

#### What is sugar

Glucose, fructose and galactose are the three basic monosaccharides (single sugar molecules). From these three units, other sugars are formed either naturally or by processing techniques. The following disaccharides are composed of two monosaccharides joined together.

sucrose	<	glucose fructose
lactose	<	galactose glucose
maltose	<	glucose glucose

Other sugars are formed by the joining up of more units. Starch itself is composed of long chains of glucose

molecules. Glucose is the basic unit of which many sugars are posed and to which most sugar starches are broken down. Dextr pure glucose. Fructose or fruit present in most fruit, many vegetables and honey. It is the sweetest common sugars.

Sucrose is the sugar most of familiar with in our homes as white brown sugar. It comes from cane sugar and is composed of equal parts of glucose and fructose. (In the article term 'sugar' refers to sucrose).

Invert sugar is formed by the hydrolysis of sucrose to a mixture of fructose and glucose by the enzyme invertase. High Fructose Syrup (also known as High Fructose Corn Syrup, isomerised glucose or starch sugar) is chemically and physically the same as invert sugar. It is a mixture of glucose formed by the isomerisation of glucose using the enzyme glucose isomerase.

Lactose is also known as milk sugar and is naturally present in milk. It is found in sprouting grains and cereals.

For more information contact: **Novo Food & Co., 2-C, Kitab Mahal, 1st Floor, 192, Dr. D.N. Road, Bombay-4**



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# Potential of Chemical & Petrochemical Industry in Gujarat

A.K.A. RATHI

Technical Adviser (Chem), Industries Commissionerate, Government of Gujarat, Ahmedabad 380 001.

Gujarat ranked 8th among the industrialised states in the country at the time of its birth as a separate State in 1960. Since then it has witnessed spectacular growth and has become the second largest industrialised State in terms of output and value added per employee. From 3,000 small industries and almost equal number of factories dominated by textile industry during its inception, the number has increased to 80,000 small scale industries and more than 100 factories at present.

Gujarat produces almost all types of chemicals required primarily for improving the living standards of human beings. These include petrochemicals, agrochemicals, dyes, drugs, specialty chemicals, organic chemicals, inorganic chemicals, alkalis, surface-coating products, oil and fats, soap and detergents, man-made fibres, plastic conversion. Findings of oil and natural gas in the early sixties played a vital role in the development of chemical and petrochemical industry in the State. The long coast-line gives an added advantage to discharge non toxic effluent, duly treated to meet relevant standards.

The first integrated chemical complex of the country was planned and implemented at Atul, Valsad. Gujarat Refinery is the largest refinery in the country with refining capacity of 3 million tonnes per annum. Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertiliser Co. Ltd. operates the largest single stream ammonia (50 tpd) and urea (1,800 tpd) plant in the world at Bhavnagar. Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd. is the largest of its kind in the country at present. Gujarat Alkalis & Chemicals Ltd. have the largest facility for the production of caustic soda and chlorine. Tata Chemicals have the largest marine chemical complex including soda ash. Five fertiliser plants — producing both nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilisers operate in the State. Gujarat has the distinction of producing some products which are only one of their kind in the country namely caprolactam, melamine, polyvinyl methacrylate, cyanides, citric acid, maleic anhydride, styrene etc. Some of the new projects under implementation for the first time in the country include alpha olefins, acetals, polycarbonates, and acetic acid based on methanol.

Gujarat produces 75% of the country's acrylic fibres, 66% of food, 50% on-shore crude oil, 30% drugs and pharmaceuticals, 53% of petrochemicals products, 75% of phosphatic fertilisers, 75% of salt, 94% of soda ash. This gives indication of the strong base of chemical and allied industries in Gujarat which has given it a pride position as the

'Chemical State' of the country, accounting for about 16% of the chemicals and allied products produced in the country now which is likely to go upto 20-22% by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan.

Unlike other industries where once a prototype is developed, mass production can start, in the chemical industry a product/process is developed on laboratory stage and it passes through pilot plant stage before a commercial plant is set up. Thus the chemical industry is a unique technology oriented industry. Whereas India contributes 15% of the world's population, its share in the production of most of the chemicals and petrochemicals is insignificant. Only in case of fertilisers, it contributes to 8% (approx.) of world's production.

The next decade is likely to see further growth of chemical and petrochemical industry, based on the strong foundation already laid in the last two decades. The major growth areas shall be in the petrochemical and gas based industries, concentration of which is likely to be around Hazira and Bhavnagar.

Considering the global demand for several chemicals and petrochemicals and the need of earning valuable foreign exchange, there appears good potential for 100% export oriented projects including vinyl acetate monomer, chlorosolvents, phthalic anhydride and amino acids. Needless to mention that such projects should be of world size and should be located near a port. Gujarat has longest coast-line of 1,500 kms., and several suitable locations could be selected for siting such export oriented projects.

Considering the requirement of intermediates for dyes, drugs and pesticides, a large complex on the lines of Hindustan Organic Chemicals could be set up in central/southern Gujarat immediately. Such a complex may start with products including concentrated nitric acid, nitrobenzene, chlorobenzenes, aniline and nitro chloro benzenes. With several fertiliser plants in the State, ammonia for nitric acid production could always be easily available. For nitration, new technology avoiding usage of sulphuric acid merits developmental efforts.

Traditionally, Gujarat was considered deficit in alcohol. Considering the performance of sugar factories and thereby availability of molasses and also several proposals of setting up new sugar factories, there appears scope for alcohol/acetaldehyde based chemicals including ethylene oxide, diethyl oxalate, ethyl amines and propionic acid. For the production



of hydrogen peroxide may be available. Du Pont, USA has developed a new liquid phase process in which hydrogen and oxygen are combined directly, avoiding quinone-bed operations and solvents. It is claimed that this process reduces the capital cost by 50% of the existing process. Using this process it would be possible to construct relatively small plants. With emphasis on safe, clean and strong oxidising agents particularly suitable for effluent treatment, the requirement of hydrogen peroxide is expected to go up. There is scope of setting up a project for the manufacture of halogenated hydrocarbons including bromochloro/bromofluoro methane which are used as fire fighting agents in advanced countries. The potential demand of these products shall be in several sectors including ONGC, Post & Telegraph, power plants, electrical sub-stations, civil aviation, refineries and petrochemical complexes.

The country has sufficient capacity for the manufacture of acetone produced from molasses and also as by-product from phenol production. Acetone based chemicals including MIBK and 3,5 xylenol could be considered. There also appears to be scope for setting up facilities for the manufacture of adipic acid, based on cyclohexanol which is being produced as an intermediate in the production of caprolactam. A project for nylon-6 manufacture also merits consideration. With an integrated approach, large cultivation of castor seeds could be converted to high value added chemicals. With the large availability of gas and continued increasing imports of crude oil, carbonylation chemistry can supplement the petrochemical industry. Synthesis gas can be used as a building block for a host of products. Gujarat has no commercial coal deposits. However, it has large reserves of deep coal which cannot be exploited by traditional mining practices being employed at present. The thickness of coal seams vary from 5 to 10 mts. and depth varies from 1 km. to 1.8 kms. Underground coal gassification offers a possible way of commercial exploitation of these deposits in the foreseeable future. Besides power generation, this may also offer synthesis gas for production of several petrochemicals.

Our country's petroleum refining needs are estimated at 75 million tonnes by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan against a present production capacity of 50 million tonnes. Even after the two planned refineries and expansion of some, there shall be a gap of 16 million tonnes. Gandhar area in Bharuch district where large oil deposits are found offers a good location for a grass-root refinery. This shall create further avenues for a host of downstream units. The production of middle distillates from gas using methanol route merits consideration in Bharuch district. The development of technology for the production of ethylene glycol by oxidative coupling of carbon monoxide in presence of alcohol is more relevant for a country like ours. With more stringent regulations on hazardous substances, continued efforts shall be made in devel-

oping alternate, safe processes which can avoid the usage of hazardous raw materials/production of hazardous intermediates. New catalysts shall be developed which are very selective whereby by-products/side products are reduced. Synthesis gas can be converted to methyl formate which can be further oxidised to dimethyl carbonate. On chlorination this can be converted to trichloromethyl chloroformate (di-phosgene) which is safe and can be readily converted to phosgene required for any reactions. The production of two of the large volume phosgene based products viz. MDI and polycarbonates is increasing world-over. Though these products are being talked of for indigenous production, no concrete steps are taken for immediate implementation. With the experience in producing and safely handling phosgene and considering the versatility of MDI and polycarbonates, Gujarat offers an ideal location for such large scale world-size projects. Polyurethane systems have a bright future.

Sulphamethoxazole is a widely used antibacterial drug which there is a large indigenous as well as export market. As an intermediate of sulphamethoxazole, diethyl oxalate offers good opportunities besides exports. Oxalic acid based on sugar could also be considered on a large scale. The existing plant of manufacturing methyl methacrylate uses hydrocyanic acid as feedstock. An alternate process developed in Japan uses isobutylene as the basic feedstock which is non-toxic. There is also potential for setting up project for manufacture of acrylates including butyl and ethyl. Some specialty chemicals including photo-copier chemicals, oil field chemicals, polymer and rubber additives could be indigenous.

Considering the large demand of titanium dioxide for face coating substances and indigenous availability of basic inputs, it should be possible to set up such a large project on a coastal location. A world size plant using the latest technology which takes care of complete effluent treatment may be considered. With the thrust on food processing industry, packaging industry has become attractive. Along with other packaging materials including BOPP, polyester films, multi-layer films, bioriented nylon films for food packaging offers good scope. Considering the problems of disposal of plastic packaging, the trend may be an increasing usage of biodegradable polymers — copolymers produced by microbial fermentation of agrobased feedstocks. These polymers also help in controlled release of drugs, fertilisers and pesticides.

Phosphogypsum is a by-product from some industries posing disposal problems. A technology is available where gypsum is decomposed in two zone fluidized bed reactor into sulphur dioxide and calcium oxide. Sulphur dioxide containing gas can be used for oleum/sulphuric acid manufacture and sintered solid by-product can find application as aggregate. Sodium hydrosulphite also offers good potential.



h for indigenous and export market. With the rapid development of the electronics industry and thrust on phase-wise modernisation of basic components, electronics chemicals which are ultra high purity chemicals offer good potential. These are low volume high value products. Further, processing of engineering plastics for applications in electronics has great potential. This business could be as much as 10-15% of total electronics business estimated at Rs. 10,000 crores.

A large petrochemical complex is recently cleared for Durgam Chirga. Based on several products of this complex, a large number of downstream units shall have good potential. Further, scope exists for several industrial units to cater to the needs of this complex including speciality chemicals and packaging materials. Another emerging area is alloys, blends, composites and composites of polymers and elastomers. This is a specialised field involving high technology in which products are tailor-made for different applications including replacement of energy intensive metals. Fibre reinforced plastics have not grown much in our country. With the easy availability of basic inputs like phenol, formaldehyde and polyester resins there should be good scope of thermosetting plastics; this would require concerted efforts on the lines of thermoplastics.

As octane booster of motor spirit, MTBE is used worldwide. There is no facility for the production of MTBE in our

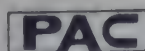
country. We may also consider production of ETBE from ethanol and isobutylene. ETBE has a higher octane number and a lower vapour pressure compared to MTBE. In our country, sugar is very popular because of its low price. With thrust on food processing industry and calorie consciousness of people, there is a scope for high fructose corn syrup (HFCS), catering to a specific market segment. One estimate indicates demand figure of HFCS at 200,000 tpa in the country. An integrated complex producing HFCS and other by-products based on maize as feedstock may be planned in north Gujarat.

In addition to investment, NRIs may be a potential source of new products and new processes. One emerging such field in which NRIs can contribute is biotechnology. The production of synthetic insulin is emerging as one of the successful biotech ventures. Similarly, many pharmaceutical products viz. biodiagnostics, biotherapeutics for cancer and vaccines are the biotechnology based future products. With more than 30% share in country's bulk drugs production, Gujarat can continue to lead by going in for new generation drugs. Entrepreneurial skills of Gujarat when combined with technological innovations can do wonders in the industrial development of the State. Liberalised policies of Government of India, minimum economic size capacities and broad banding of several products added to the pragmatic policies of Government of Gujarat are conducive to the further growth of chemical and allied industries in Gujarat.

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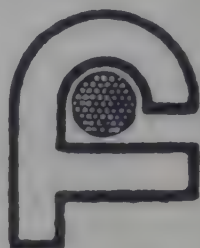
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## News from the American Market

### EPA DATABASE DETAILS SOURCES OF TOXIC RELEASES

The Environment Protection Agency (EPA) recently released a computer database of the chemical release reports collected in 1988 under its Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) programme. The database enables the public to have access to more than 19,000 manufacturing facilities, through the use of personal computers. The new database contains the first comprehensive emission information on specific facilities and communities available through EPA.

Also it identifies 25 countries with the largest total releases of toxic chemicals, contributing about 52% of total releases in the US. The EPA analysis shows that the chemicals and allied products sector was responsible for more toxic releases and transfers than any other industry contributing quantity of 12.1 billion pounds of chemicals. It released about half of such substance to surface water and 24% to underground injection.

The Natural Resources Defence Council (Washington, DC) issued its own analysis of TRI data. The NRDC lists 1,500 major sources of 11 cancer-causing chemicals, ranking the 20 largest emission sources for each of the chemicals.

The increasingly accessible information means the chemical industry is going to have to spend a great deal of time in explaining to the public the relevance of such data.

### POLYMER DEMAND SLOWS

PE prices have plummeted nearly 10 cents/lb this year, whereas ethylene contract prices started to weaken only in May slipping 2 cents/lb. Commodity-grade PE resin prices range from 43 cents/lb for linear low-density PE to 47 cents/lb. Ethylene producers hope that quantum shut-down, and the scheduled plant turn-arounds would supply enough psychological support to present ethylene prices slipping further.

However, third-quarter 1989, is predicted to be the strongest in terms of demand, according to a PE major. Buyers would soon realize ethylene prices would drop — but gradually.

Preliminary 1989 statistics of the Society of the Plastics Industry show the first five months' production about even with the same period of last year, but sales of linear low-density and low density PE were off 8%. Besides the fall-off in buying by India, Pakistan and China last fall caused polymer prices to nosedive.

More recently US PP producers have lost export business to foreign producers eager to expand existing capacity. In May PP prices dropped from the mid-40s to the low-40s for general purpose homopolymer.

As regards PVC prices Occidental Chemical lowered its list prices by 2 c/lb on June 1, and other producers to match the move, listed film PVC of 44 c/lb, general

purpose at 43 c/lb, and pipe-grade at 42 c/lb.

The 2 c/lb drop in ethylene prices has given — some relief feedstock costs to makers of vinyl chloride monomer (VCM) and directly to PVC producers.

Styrene price cuts of 2 cents in June take pressure off PS sins makers. Prices for some grades dropped a penny in June but producers say decreases not being made across the board. With the exception of extruded custom sheet, PS demand in housing up and the 3 cents/lb price differential between high-impact and crystal PS has not deteriorated.

### 'SUPER FUND' PROGRAMME TUNED UP

The Superfund hazardous waste clean-up programme has recently released a study ordered by William K. Reilly — the current administrator in the United States.

The study recommends full participation by the public in programme decisions prioritised minimization of acute health and safety threats from sites, more content site remedy decisions by management and stepped-up search on new clean-up technologies in Reilly had already pledged to shift to an "enforcement policy against responsible parties."

Under the new enforcement policy the objective would be to place the parties responsible for the contamination to do the clean-up, rather than clean-up sites with federal funds and then seek reimbursement.



EPA plans to check 200 unassessed sites to ensure that no imminent health threat exists. Then the agency would conduct clean-up work at the highest priority sites first. Management will be improved by drawing in new personnel and using a new system to match best available tools to remedy the problem, regardless of whether the site is cleaned by the government or private agencies.

EPA will also remove barriers to full use of settlement incentives provided by the law like nonbinding allocations of responsibility, reduced funding and minimum settlements for small contributors. The report says guidelines must be drawn up to stop the improper use of contractors, reflected in the report's directive to increase in-house staff and reduce dependence on contractors.

The report urges better consistency between EPA regions in remedy decisions in compliance with statutory mandates and consideration of data about available clean-up technologies. But it also adds that absolute consistency is not a reasonable expectation given that hundreds of waste sites differ in many respects and that the law requires consideration of several factors that often militate against consistency.

The U.S. superfund programme is a long-term clean-up effort that will continue into the next century.

## O<sub>2</sub> PROJECTS ON THE CREASE

H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> projects are coming up fast with Sweden's Ehc-Nobel in a joint venture with Du Pont and Mitsubishi Gas Chemical planning a plant in Venezuela, and the French-owned Oxychem Canada doubling up capacity in Quebec to 40,000 m.t./year. H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> projects grow

by 15-18% per year in N. America. But producers now want a worldwide position in this product.

The driving force behind the upsurge is the start-up of more chemi-thermomechanical pulping (CTMP) process mills. Oxychem expects the Canadian market to grow from 30,000 m.t. last year to at least 50,000 m.t./year on 1992.

North America is likely to attract still more investment, and promising but smaller markets exist in Mexico, Malaysia, South Africa, Chile or Pakistan. Besides peroxide projects have exhibited the tendency to generate demand once local production is established.

## BRAZIL TO BUILD NEW CHLOR-ALKALI COMPLEX

A plan to build a \$1-billion petrochemical complex was launched by Brazil in the state of Sergipe, recently. The launch represents an important move to decentralize Brazil's industrial activity.

Most of the basic plants are expected to start up in 1992-93. Among them is a \$350-million chlor-alkali complex with annual capacities of 200,000 m.t. of Caustic Soda, 180,000 m.t. of Chlorine, and 80,000 m.t. of ethylene dichloride (EDC). Chlorine and ethylene feedstock will eventually come from its own cracker, to be built by Salgema Industries Quimicas, SA supplemented by ethylene from the already existing Camacari Petrochemical complex.

Another project on the anvil is a 200,000 mt/year ethylene plant using ethane as feedstock. A \$120-million natural gas treatment plant will also be included in the project; to be built by Petrobras. It will supply the feedstock for an ethane cracker, and

an expanding fertilizer facility, run by one of the company's subsidiaries. This plant will increase Sergipe's gas treatment capacity from 3 million cu-metres/day of nitrogen to 7 million cu-metres/day.

About \$100 million will be invested in port facilities, primarily for exports. Brazil is asking for a \$100 million from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) banks abroad.

## SODA ASH OUTPUT HITS ALL TIME HIGH

Soda ash in May hit record levels of 879,533-s.t. while inventory stocks for the month reached 194,476 s.t. according to figures released by the U.S. Bureau of Mines. A key factor in the output drive is the export market where exports have climbed to levels above those in the U.S.

Tenneco and Texasgulf operate at name-plate capacity, with the former scheduled to increase production by 100,000 s.t./year by 1990 on account of debottlenecking.

General Chemical will also be expanding capacity at its Wyomingtrona site. The debottlenecking project will increase current name-plate capacity from 2.2 million lbs/year to 2.5 million lbs/year during the next few years. An increase in demand and the continued demand for liquid caustic product played a major role in the planned expansion.

A breakdown of export prices shows the varying levels for soda ash product throughout the world (through April 1989): Canada \$66.05/s.t. Venezuela \$127.65; Sweden \$110.67 (purchased 8,775 s.t.), England \$147.21 (purchased 17,000 s.t.). France \$93.44 (purchased 5,300 s.t.) China \$110.16 (purchased 191,520 s.t.); Australia \$99.80.



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Iron	mg/100 gm.	18.0	18.0
<b>Vitamins</b>			
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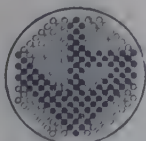
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## News from Abroad

### ENIMONT NEGOTIATES SAUDI PROPYLENE PLANT

Enimont, the newly formed joint venture between Enichem and Montedison, is forging ahead with plans for rapid internationalization. In Belgium recently to announce the commissioning of major new polystyrene production facilities, Lorenzo Necci, president of Enimont, outlined the company's strategy for the future, and talked about the impending flotation programme and Enimont's links with Orkem.

Necci revealed that Enimont has begun discussions with Sabic on the formation of a propylene production joint venture in Saudi Arabia.

In his keynote address, Necci spoke of a three-point plan for Enimont: internationalization; rationalization; and innovation. "Internationalization means not just selling worldwide. We already market almost half of our total volume outside Italy. Internationalization today also means being close to the customer. This implies a shift in the balance of our production. Currently about 15 per cent of our production is manufactured outside Italy. We intend to move that to 40 per cent", the president said.

Enimont is selectively pursuing port-folio swaps, acquisitions and joint ventures where it already has technological and market strength. The polystyrene expansion at Feluy and the newly signed agreement with Orkem to acquire control of the linear and low density polyethylene and the ethylene cracker at Dunkirk are a logical reinforcement of Enimont's integration. Together with its existing PE plant at Oberhausen in Germa-

ny and the elastomer production in the UK, they strengthen the company's leadership and bring it closer to the customers.

Enimont is buying 100 per cent of Orkem's PE operations and 60 per cent of the cracker. Orkem's current total share in the plant. It is not yet certain how the remaining 40 per cent, now held by Qatar but which is being transferred to Orkem, will be divided. Part of the ethylene, Necci said, will be used to feed the Oberhausen plant in Germany and there are also plans for the cracker's expansion as well as new downstream development. The total package will be worked out by the end of December.

Co-products from the ethylene plant at Dunkirk will provide raw material both for the Belgian PS expansion as well as its UK elastomer plants.

Enimont is the first Italian national company with the power to compete on the world stage, Necci said. It has assets of L9,500bn (\$7bn) and sales this year are expected to reach L16,000bn (\$11 bn). Asked whether the company will downgrade its L1,100bn profit forecast for this year in view of the decline in the heavy chemical markets, Necci said for forecast will not be altered. As an integrated company it has the means for overcoming the problems. "The fall in prices has been so rapid that there is something wrong, may be the Chinese situation had something to do with it, in my opinion there will be a recovery".

The flotation of 20 per cent — 10.5 per cent in Italy and 9.5 per cent outside — of the company's shares is scheduled for September 10-15.

Referring to talks with Snia on port-folio swaps — Enimont's move for Snia's acrylic — Necci said that the fibre industry is facing major rationalization and "we would not play a part if we don't rationalize in Italy". Talks with Snia have not progressed beyond the letter of intent, which the two signed in April.

On plans by Sabic to set manufacturing joint ventures in Europe, Necci said that his company could be interested in a partnership but it would depend what Sabic had to offer. Although there are no discussions on the front, Necci said preliminary talks have begun with Sabic on the setting up of a propylene production joint venture in Saudi Arabia. "We are looking at expanding where feedstocks are available", he said. No other partners are involved. Eni is already a partner in 1bn Zahr, an MTBE production joint venture, which also includes Neste.

Polystyrene is an area where Enimont's internationalization is particularly in evidence. Its total capacity of 475,000 ton/year, including expanded polystyrene, puts the company in Europe's second slot after BASF and gives it 18 per cent of the market.

Two new production lines have just been commissioned by Enimont, Enimont's joint venture with Petrofina (Enimont is responsible for the marketing) at Feluy, Belgium, adding 35,000 ton/year of crystal polystyrene and 10 ton/year of compounding to existing facilities of 75,000 ton/year of impact PS and 35 ton/year of EPS. Its total Belgian operation now commands 1,000 ton/yr. of capacity. Previously Northern European customers of crystal and compound polystyrene were supplied from the 320 ton/year plant at Matova in northern Italy.



## Chemical Markets Abroad

### PARAXYLENE DEMAND TO GROW INTO THE 1990S

A paraxylene growth rate of 6 per cent is sustainable over the next decade despite the apparent slowdown in the global economy predicted for the first two years of the 1990s, according to Paul Beale, senior analyst at Petrochemical Consultants International. It follows 9.4 per cent compound growth for paraxylene since the bottom of the economic slump in 1982.

The global supply and demand situation for the third and fourth quarters this year are balanced, but the current excess of product, mainly in Japanese tanks, is expected to progressively disappear as new PTA capacity in Taiwan and Korea takes it up in July-September.

However, xylenes prices in the Far East are under pressure in July which could affect paraxylene contract prices. US paraxylene prices may have to react to the higher prices set in Europe albeit with an exchange rate distortion.

It remains to be seen how the paraxylene market will react to the new Japanese paraxylene plants, debottlenecks as well as two new Korean units, but, as history has shown, paraxylene margins could decline by 1991 to levels below reinvestment economics if all this new capacity flows into the system.

There is a case for spreading some of this new capacity by paying start-ups where possible every year or two, but according to Beale, at least another 1.5m ton new paraxylene capacity will be required by the late 1990s.

Around seven million ton of new capacity is expected to come

onstream over the next decade, which will effectively double the present world capacity. A major part of this is to be built in Asia and the Far East in the next few years. Japanese paraxylene capacity alone is set to double from its 1983 level.

The world production base for paraxylene is inexorably shifting away from North America, on the basis that the greatest concentration of new PTA capacity will centre in the Far East, to fuel high indigenous growth in demand for polyester products.

Feedstock to service the new paraxylene production in the Far East will largely come from new reforming capacity, crude distillation capacity and additional extraction capacity from the refinery systems in the Far East. In Europe and North America, paraxylene producers will utilise xylenes already within the gasoline pool by using alternative octane blend components, changing severity of reforming capacity improving catalysts or by consuming merchant xylenes currently allocated to the export markets.

This demand for paraxylenes may be justified by the increased demand for fibres. Beale forecasts a global increase in fibres demand of around 15m ton by the year 2000 of which 40 per cent will be polyester.

Despite almost 6m ton of new consumption of polyester fibre in Asia and the Far East, consumption will only have doubled to 2.5 kg per capita by the late 1990s compared to consumption in North America of around 7.4 kg per capita.

For the feedstock side, depending on relative economics and supply and demand, selective tol-

uene disproportionation (TDP) may become far more widespread, feedstock for paraxylene and will encompass the total toluene/xylene pool. Thus bringing the price, at a premium on gasoline blend values.

Looking at the recent history of paraxylene production, capacity utilization rates throughout the 1980s have steadily increased from around 80 per cent to virtually optimum, with production rates which can vary between 85-95 per cent.

### FRENCH CHEMICALS OUTPUT UP

France's base organic chemicals sector experienced a record year in 1988, with utilization rates of steam crackers exceeding 100 per cent in a number of cases. Union des Chambres Syndicales de l'Industrie du Pétrole, the oil firms trade group, has revealed that steam-cracker profitability was only attained at the year end.

After the sharp recovery of 6.1 per cent growth in 1987, olefins production only rose 4.6 per cent in 1988, although record levels of 4.5m ton were reached. Limited by cracker capacity, ethylene production only increased 1.6 per cent in 1988 but also reached recovered levels exceeding 2.4m ton.

Propylene production reached 1.5m ton for the first time with consumption at 1.3m ton. The accelerated production increases of 7.3 per cent in 1988, compared with 6.8 per cent in 1987, is mainly due to polypropylene development.

The export balance of ethylene and propylene — traditionally positive — deteriorated in 1988 with 226,000 ton of ethylene exported down from 280,000 ton in 1987, and 189,000 ton compared with 286,000 ton for propylene.



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# NEWS FROM JAPAN

## ALUMINIUM SYNTHETIC RESIN INCREASINGLY APPLIED TO CARS

Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association has announced results of a survey on component ratios of raw materials for primary- and small-sized passenger cars manufactured in 1988.

The association selected 20 models of mass-produced cars (1,500-2,000 cc) including those commercialized last fall as main items and calculated — on a weighted-average basis — the amount of raw materials needed for manufacturing them.

The survey results show that component ratios of non-ferrous metal, in particular aluminium, and synthetic resin are rising and there is a definite move toward manufacturing lightweight, high-performance cars.

According to the latest survey, the ratio of cold-rolled thin steel — which commands the largest share in ordinary steel used in car production — dropped considerably. In contrast, zinc-coated steel plated and other surface-treated ones are being increasingly employed in a bid to enhance the corrosion resistance of the car body and lengthen car life.

With regard to specialty steel materials, use of steel alloy and high-strength steel has increased because they help automate assembly lines and improve working efficiency.

As for nonferrous metals, the component ratios of electrolytic copper


and aluminium have risen sharply in response to the progress of car electronics and increased application of aluminium ingot and aluminium alloy to wheels and exterior panels, respectively.

A similar survey is conducted by the association every three years. It is unreasonable to make a simple comparison between raw material ratios obtained through a certain survey and those derived from another one since there is a difference in the car models surveyed.

The share of synthetic resins increased every time the survey has been conducted. Polypropylene has been applied to many parts — interior panels and bumpers, etc. — in the form of polymer alloy and modified resin. High-performance resins such as polybutyrene-terephthalate resin, nylon and polycarbonate resin have come to play an important role in car-part manufacture.

Demand for synthetic resins is growing in the Japanese car industry since they are completely free from corrosion and allow freedom in designing car parts. Their application is steadily expanding from interior material to engine-related parts and exterior panels.

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# Component Ratios of Raw Materials for Passenger Cars (in %)

	1983	1986	1989
<b>Pig iron</b>			
Ordinary steel	2.2	1.7	1.7
Bar steel	0.9	0.9	0.8
Hot rolled thin plate	7.6	7.1	6.3
Hot rolled medium plate	5.7	4.7	4.8
Hot rolled thick plate	0.6	0.4	0.4
Cold rolled thin plate	29.4	26.0	22.5
High-tension steel	4.1	7.3	6.4
Galvanized steel	5.5	5.4	10.0
Other types of surface-treated iron sheet	2.3	2.8	2.9
Steel pipes	2.3	2.7	2.4
Others	1.1	0.4	0.4
Subtotal	59.5	57.7	56.9
<b>Specialty steel</b>		6.1	6.0
Carbon steel	6.0		
Alloy steel	3.6	3.4	3.5
Machinability-improved steel	1.0	1.4	1.9
Stainless steel, heat-resistant steel	0.9	1.0	1.0
Spring steel	1.5	1.5	1.4
Bearing steel	0.9	0.9	0.7
Others	0.4	0.7	0.6
Subtotal	14.3	15.0	15.1
<b>Nonferrous metal</b>			
Electrolytic copper	0.9	1.0	1.3
Lead	0.6	0.6	0.6
Zinc	0.4	0.4	0.4
Aluminum	3.5	3.9	4.9
Others	0.2	0.2	0.2
Subtotal	5.6	6.1	7.4
<b>Nonmetal</b>			
Paints	1.7	1.7	1.4
Rubber	3.5	3.0	2.7
Glass	3.2	3.3	3.0
Phenol resin	0.2	0.1	0.1
Polyurethane resin	0.9	1.2	1.0
Vinyl chloride resin	1.7	1.7	1.6
Polyethylene resin	0.4	0.5	0.4
Polypropylene resin	1.2	2.0	2.4
ABS resin	0.5	0.7	0.8
Versatile resins, subtotal	5.5	6.6	6.6
High-performance resins, subtotal	0.2	0.7	0.9
Synthetic resins, subtotal	5.7	7.3	7.5
Fibre	1.3	1.4	1.2
Wood	0.3	0.5	0.4
Others	2.7	2.3	2.7
Subtotal	18.4	19.5	18.9
<b>Grand total</b>	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Total weight of raw materials (1973-100)</b>	102.7	106.8	115.1

## SANDOZ SUBSIDIARY TO SET UP DRUG RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN JAPAN

Sandoz Pharmaceuticals Ltd. Sandoz (Switzerland)'s Japan subsidiary — plans to complete in 1991 or 1992 an integrated search institute for drugs (to floor space: 15,000 m<sup>2</sup>) in Tama Academic New Town located in Ibaraki Prefecture, which lies northeast of Tokyo. Construction is scheduled to be inaugurated next year.

The planned institute will conduct R&D work for drugs designed to meet Japanese demand for medical treatment, encourage marketing of Sandoz drugs in Japan and promote co-operation with topnotch Japanese researchers. At the initial stage, it will back other Sandoz group firms with regard to their development of drugs. It will simultaneously push forward basic research.

The Sandoz group has decided to set up the research institute in Japan, considering that business expansion in the country calls for prompt commercialization of drugs capable of meeting diversified consumer needs for medical treatment and the greying of society.

Sandoz Pharmaceuticals already has two laboratories in Japan. Search functions will be shifted from these two labs to the new institute, which will be staffed with roughly 150 researchers, more than double the present level of some 70 researchers.

Sandoz Pharmaceuticals' annual sales last year stood at Y76.3 million, up 3.1% over the preceding year; the figure accounts for 11% of the Sandoz group's combined drug sales reaching 4.2 million Swiss francs last year.



## GE BUILDUP OF ACRYLIC D MARKET UNDER WAY

Acrylic acid is the leading product of Nippon Shokubai Kagaku Kogyo Co. Ltd., which aims to expand the product's current annual production capacity of 90,000 tons to 150,000 tons by next year. The company announced that it planned to increase production of acrylic acid by 60,000 tons, and it would invest ¥6 billion to achieve this goal.

The company must increase production to meet the rapidly increasing demand for high water adsorbent resin and cleanser builders. Just last spring in 1988, it set up a system for producing 100,000 tons of the product and further increased production is expected to attract interest at home and abroad. Once this aim has been completed, Nippon Shokubai will be the world's fourth largest producer of acrylic acid, ranking with BASF (W. Germany), Rohm & Haas (US), etc.

Japan's total output of acrylic acid for 1988 came to approximately 210,000 tons. This figure was tallied up from the 90,000 tons of acrylic acid produced by Nippon Shokubai, 50,000 tons by

Mitsubishi Petrochemical Co., 37,500 tons by Sumitomo Chemical Co., and 30,000 tons by Toagosei Chemical Industry Co. There has also been rapid growth in demand for acrylic acid ester, high water adsorbent resin, cleanser builders, and dispersants, all of which are used in house paints and other products. This area, in particular, is enjoying a favourable trend. Demand for these products have reached 200,000 tons (including exports). The year 1989 has already witnessed an increase, and demand is expected to hit the 210,000 ton level.

Nippon Shokubai invested approximately ¥1,500 million in acrylic acid production in the spring of 1988, and increased the annual output capacity at that time (60,000 tons) by 30,000 tons, thus establishing a system able to produce 90,000 tons. However, demand for high water adsorbent resins is expected to grow by over 10% in light of diffusion rate of disposable diapers in Japan, which has already reached the 20% level. In addition, the demand for housing-related demand for acrylic acid esters, except methyl products, is expected to grow by over 5% annually. To cope

with such rapidly increasing demands, the company decided to boost its annual production output capacity to 150,000 tons.

However, Nippon Shokubai's facilities include its current 40,000-ton plant, which is run on an old system begun in 1972. Consequently, while using this plant as a buffer, the company intends within the next two or three years to changeover completely to a new plant run via a propylene direct oxidation method in order to boost production efficiency.

## SUMITOMO CHEM TO RAISE ANILINE CAPACITY TO 80,~100,000 T/Y

Sumitomo Chemical Co. will expand its production capacity for aniline, demand for which has been growing rapidly in Japan and abroad as material for polyurethane and diphenylmethane diisocyanate (MDI).

The company will invest nearly ¥1 billion in debottlenecking the 50,000-t/y aniline plant at its Tmima factory to raise capacity to between 80,000 and 100,000 t/y. The expansion work will be finished by the end of this year. This will make Sumitomo Chemical comparable, in terms of supply



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capacity, with the world's major aniline makers such as Bayer, ICI and First Chemical.

The Japanese company explains that the capacity expansion is intended to meet demand growth stemming from the planned scale-up of MDI capacity by Sumitomo Bayer Urethane Co. — a Sumitomo-group company — as well as increasing demand for use in dyes, organic rubber chemicals and drug intermediates, etc., and expected MDI expansion in South Korea and China.

Japan's aniline production last year totaled about 136,000 tons, which is broken down, by use, into 95,000 tons for MDI, 15,000 tons for organic rubber chemicals, 25,000 tons for dyes, pigments and drug intermediates, etc., and 10,000 tons for export. Import registered 10,000 tons.

The nominal capacities of Japanese aniline makers are: Sumitomo Chemical, 50,000 t/y; Mitsui Petrochemical Industries, 45,000 t/y; New Japan Chemical, 18,000 t/y; Mitsui Toatsu Chemicals, 23,000 t/y for in-house consumption; and Nippon Polyurethane, 5,000 t/y. This means that the supply-and-demand position is tight. Taking into account MDI-expansion plants in Japan and abroad, many believe that a substantial supply shortage of aniline is inevitable.

#### SALES IN JAPAN OF "K RESIN" SEEN HITTING 10,000 TONS

"K Resin" butadiene-styrene resin has been in short supply in Japan where there is growing demand for its use in resin modifiers. The product has been imported from Phillips Petroleum (US) via Nippon Steel Chemical.

Annual sales of the product in Japan stand at 6,000 tons but potential demand here is projected

to exceed 10,000 tons a year. The Japanese company will be able to obtain from next year, roughly 10,000 tons a year of the product for domestic sales since the US company is scheduled to scale up this fall the production concerned by 50,000 tons a year in the States and by 20,~30,000 tons a year in Europe.

The Japanese firm envisages starting to produce the said resin by itself when annual sales of the product reach 10,000 tons.

#### ELI LILLY SUBSIDIARY STARTS MARKETING HUMAN-GROWTH HORMONE

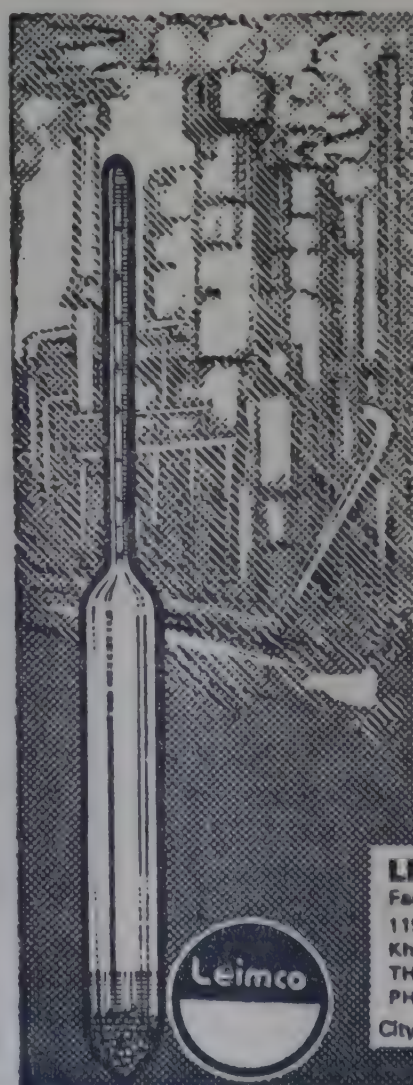
Eli Lilly Japan K.K. — subsidiary of Eli Lilly and Company (US) — has inaugurated marketing of "Humatrope" human-growth hormone (common name: somatro-

pin) using roughly 200 professional service representatives. This is the first instance of the company selling a drug by itself.

The human-growth hormone concerned has been developed by the US parent company using recombinant-DNA technology and has already been marketed in countries throughout the world.

The Japanese subsidiary obtained import approval on the product February 28 and it was listed on the drug tariff April 21. The company claims the drug is of high purity, produces less antibody within the human body, shows a high degree of safety and markedly encourages human growth.


The company was established in November, 1975 and engaged in licensing operations in the



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stage. Since 1985 it has been promoting on a few drugs close co-operation with Shionogi & Co.

Start-up of independent drug marketing by the foreign-affiliated company indicates that it is paying close attention to the potentiality of the Japanese drug market. The firm plans to expand product offerings and build up a sales network covering hospitals located across the country.

#### YAMASA ALLOWS SQUIBB (US) TO MARKET ANTIVIRAL AGENT

Yamasa Shoyu Co. and Squibb Corp. (US) have signed an agreement giving the US drug maker exclusive world-wide marketing rights outside of Japan for "BV-araU" antiviral agent.

"BV-araU" — originally synthesized by Yamasa's chemists — is a nucleoside analogue antiviral agent showing potent activity, most notably against varicella-zoster virus. Squibb is investigating this agent for treatment of shingles (herpes zoster) and cold sores (herpes simplex) in accordance with an investigational new drug (IND) application filed last February with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Shingles is a difficult-to-treat, painful disease affecting, in particular, elderly and immunocompromised patients. It is a recurring condition which often leads to post-herpetic neuralgia — itself a painful condition. No effective antiviral pharmaceutical agent exists for the treatment of this debilitating disease. It is estimated that there are more than 1.5 million cases of shingles attacks every year in the United States and Europe.

Clinical trials for this promising agent are expected to begin in the States and Europe in late 1989 and, if successful, the drug will be available in the mid-1990's. It will also be evaluated against varicella in immunocompromised patients as well as for effectiveness against other herpes viruses.

The antiviral market—in which "BV-araU" will compete—is projected to exceed \$1 billion by the late 1990's.

Clinical trials for evaluating the product as an oral pharmaceutical agent against shingles are in progress in Japan in co-operation with Yamasa Shoyu and Nippon Shoji Kaisha Ltd.

#### SHOWA DENKO MOVES UP CONSTRUCTION OF PP PLANT

Showa Denko K.K. has set itself to building a 60,~70,000-t/y polypropylene (PP) plant at its Oita factory next year, one year earlier than originally planned. The company is running a 92,500-t/y PP plant but has been unable to meet brisk demand for the product itself.

It has supplied Honam Oil Refinery Co. (S. Korea) with propylene and received PP from the S. Korean company in return for the raw material supply. The imports from S. Korea, however, lack stability in terms of both product quality and quantity.

Showa Denko has agreed with Tonen Sekiyukagaku K.K. with regard to capacity expansion for PP: the latter is scheduled to complete a 60,000-t/y PP plant at its Chiba factory next April.

Showa Denko is due to take delivery of roughly 15,000 t/y of the PP produced by Tonen Sekiyukagaku's new plant but the agreed-

upon amount is not sufficient for satisfying the growing demand for the product. It is forecast that PP will attain the highest growth rate in Japan among general-purpose resins. Domestic PP production in 1988 increased by as much as 11% over the preceding year. It is expected to mark a 10% gain in the January-June period of this year.

Showa Denko has decided to move up construction of its new PP plant, taking into account the above-mentioned circumstances surrounding PP operations. In a related development, it is also planning to erect a new L-LDPE plant at the Oita factory, keeping pace with the planned scaling-up of ethylene production to 750,000 t/y. The construction of PP and L-LDPE plants will build up the foundation of the company's petrochemical complex located in Oita, Kyushu.

#### JAPANESE ANTI-INFLAMMATORY DRUG LICENSED TO GERMANY

Nissan Chemical Industries Ltd. and Hisamitsu Pharmaceutical Co. have jointly licensed to Kali-Chemie Pharma of West Germany the production technology for an external-use (nonsteroidal) anti-inflammatory analgesic jointly developed by the two Japanese firms. Kali-Chemie is the drug department of W. Germany's Kali-Duphar.

Under the agreement, the German firm manufacture and market the drug in the 12 EC countries. The external-use drug will be available in three forms — gel, lotion and cream.

The drug is being sold on the Japanese market under the "EPA-TEC gel" and "SECTOR gel" trade names.



## New Developments from Japan

### THICK HARD LAYER FORMED ON ALUMINUM SURFACE: SHODEN

Showa Denko K.K. (Shoden) has established technology for giving aluminum a hard surface layer surface of using a flame-spraying process for ceramics. The company has thus succeeded in forming a hard layer (fine-ceramic particles) with a thickness of more than 1mm upon the surface of aluminum. The R&D work concerned was conducted under commission from The Japan Research and Development Center for Metals (JRCM).

Ceramic powder employed for the said purpose is classified into two types — type (1) composite powder of tungsten carbide and

cobalt (component ratio: 12%) and type (2) mixed powder of chromium carbide and nickel/chromium (25%). The two types of ceramic powder were flame-sprayed on 5000-type aluminum alloy comprising pure aluminum, magnesium and copper. The alloy was heated up to 200 deg C in advance and flame-spraying equipment manufactured by Stooddy Deloro Stellite Inc. (US) was utilized.

The Vickers hardness of the type (1) and (2) powder-coated aluminum stands at 1,100 and 880, respectively. The two types of aluminum products are harder than anodized aluminum.

Aluminum surfaces are usually treated using an anodizing method but the hardened layer thereby

formed is so thin that it can be measured in microns. Anodized aluminum cannot be utilized for sliding parts for, for example, industrial-use robots since the hardened layer is easily peeled off.

Ceramics-coated aluminum test manufactured by Showa Denko can be applied to sliding parts and will help expand application fields for aluminum. The company claims it is necessary to develop "gradient-function" materials aimed at improving the adhesion between the hard layer and aluminum.

### FIERE AUXILIARIES MAKER PRODUCES DIAMOND POWDER

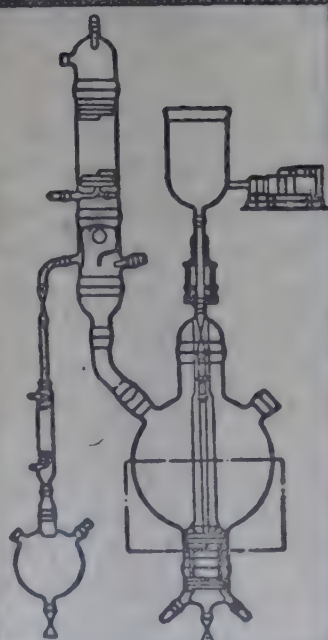
Matsumoto Yushi-Seiyaku Co., Japan's top textile-auxiliaries maker based in Osaka, has been mass-producing industrial use artificial diamond powder featuring high purity. The diamond powder is produced from graphite by means of a reaction brought about at high temperature and under high pressure in the presence of a catalyst.

The company has built a plant for the powder and is marketing it for use as abrasive grain, saw blades and wheels. This business is part of the company's diversification into nonfiber-related products such as extremely fine organic particles and metallic fluids.

### "NANO-CHEMISTRY" RESEARCH PROJECT TARGETED: MITI

MITI is scheduled to begin fiscal year a ¥50 billion-wide 12-year research project for "nano chemistry" aimed at controlling molecular arrangement; chemistry is believed to hold the key to the development of new material and life-science production.

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The project is intended to establish technology for controlling and analyzing atomic/molecular arrangements in the nanometer (1,000,000 mm) order, thereby laying up the foundation of new chemical technology.

In line with the project, MITI is to install 1,000 million volt-class neutron beam-applied analysis equipment and 2,000 million volt-class synchrotron orbit radiation (SOR)-applied analysis equipment and push forward related research with the co-operation of government, industry and universities. It aims at completing related feasibility studies by the end of fiscal 1991 and stepping up related operations after that.

It is becoming increasingly necessary to establish technology for controlling and analyzing atomic/molecular arrangements, keep pace with aggressive development of polymer alloy, superconductors and biomimetics materials etc. Application of X-ray/neutron diffraction analysis method now in use is limited to analysis/control of atomic/molecular arrangements in the micron order. They are unsuitable for analysis of biological supermolecules and substances (ex. polymer alloy having disordered atomic arrangements). What is worse, conventional methods are unable to identify arrangements of small molecules under the influence of electric fields and charges.

Neutron beams and SOR have been to be actively applied to structural analysis of substances and control of atomic/molecular arrangements in overseas. Japan is, however, lagging behind these countries in nano-chemistry R&D related equipment.

## NEW CATALYST HELPS PRODUCE PHENOL IN SINGLE STEP

A research group led by Professor of Chemistry M. Seno of Institute of Industrial Science, the University of Tokyo has synthesized perfluorotetraphenyl porphyrin — a fluorinated porphyrin-iron complex — and succeeded in efficiently producing phenol from benzene and hydrogen peroxide in a single step using the complex as a catalyst at room temperature and under normal pressure.

The new complex is produced by replacing all the hydrogen atoms of tetraphenyl porphyrin with fluorine atoms. It features high-level stability against oxidants.

The research group has also confirmed that the complex serves as a catalyst for producing 1,4-benzoquinone and epoxychlorooctane from phenol and cyclooctene, respectively. It is regarded as a promising catalyst capable of activating the carbon-hydrogen bond.

Phenol is usually produced by means of a cumene process. The said complex facilitates a new economical process to synthesize phenol in a single step by directly oxidizing benzene.

Cytochrome P-450 also activates the carbon-hydrogen bond but is used only as an oxidative catalyst for olefin and alkane since it lacks stability against oxidants.

## FAR MORE POWERFUL WEEDKILLER MADE BY USING FLUORINE GROUP

Sagami Chemical Research Center, Chisso Petrochemical Corp. and Kaken Pharmaceutical Co. have jointly succeeded in

developing a herbicide having a very strong weedkilling effect — about ten times that of conventional ones.

The development has come about from successful introduction of a fluorine substituent to oxazolidinedione, a nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound already developed as a herbicide. The new chemical has weedkilling efficiency of several tens grams per hectare.

A researcher involved commented on the chemical, saying that the problem is that it is rather too effective as a weed killer.

It has been known that the introduction of a fluorine substituent to existing herbicides would give them a greater weed-killing effect, and so there has been an active development race among many agrochemical makers throughout the world. It is also believed that replacement in an appropriate position with a fluorine substituent will not increase the degrees of toxicity of the host chemicals.

The researcher says that it has been confirmed that other oxazolidine-dione derivatives obtained by such substitution also have strong weed-killing effects.

## R&D FOR 3-COMPONENT PHOTORESIST KICKED OFF: HOECHST JAPAN

Hoechst Japan Ltd. has inaugurated R&D work for photoresist adaptable to excimer lasers. X-rays and ion beams, all of which will be used in lithography employed for the manufacture of DRAM chips with a capacity of more than 64 megabits.

Hoechst — the company's parent firm located in W. Germany



— has already developed a 3-component photoresist in sample form: the new product consists of a base resin, sensitizer and inhibitor. The Japanese subsidiary intends to commercialize the product in co-operation with Japanese semiconductor makers.

Conventional photoresist is usually of 2-component type: it is composed of a base resin and sensitizer. Hoechst Japan, however, considers that 2-component products based on phenol resin are not suitable for ultraviolet rays and X-rays having wavelengths of less than 300nm.

High-density IC chips (capacity: over 64 MB) need to have circuit widths of as narrow as less than 0.25 micron. Excimer lasers.

X-rays and ion beams (wavelength: 249–337nm in each case) will be used for engraving such fine patterns upon semiconductor chips.

Hoechst Japan plans to open a new laboratory in Kawagoe located north of Tokyo in September next year and promote photoresist R&D at the new laboratory equipped with synchrotron-orbit-radiation (SOR) equipment. Hoechst is considering moving the electronics divisions of its R&D bases spread throughout the world to the Japanese laboratory.

#### MITI SPONSORS R&D PROJECT FOR ORGANIC SILICON

MITI is scheduled to inaugurate next fiscal year an R&D project for organic silicon with the co-

operation of the government, universities and private industry. The project is aimed at developing excellent material — which has, for example, a high level of strength and thermal resistance by combining silicon with nitrogen and oxygen, etc.

Targeted material is, for instance, an ultrahigh heat-resistant moldable ceramic produced by combining silicon with nitrogen. Its potential applications are interior walls for the gas-turbine engine. MITI claims it is possible to produce machinable semiconductor material, side effect drugs and pollution-free pesticides by combining silicon with other elements.

The ministry envisages investing a total of roughly ¥16 billion in the said project over the coming 10 years and putting organic silicon material into practical use by the year 2000.

Silicon belongs to the elementary group that includes carbon so it is theoretically possible to replace all the carbon atoms of a chemical substance with silicon atoms. Silicon is contained in stones and rocks and is expected to serve as a promising element for substitutes for petrochemical products. At present, however, it is utilized only in the form of silicone resin — except for semiconductor — since it is unusable due to its high melting

In an effort to implement the project, MITI sent in late 1988 a joint survey team to European countries where R&D for organic silicon has progressed to a certain extent. The mission visited West Germany and Rhone-Alpes (France).

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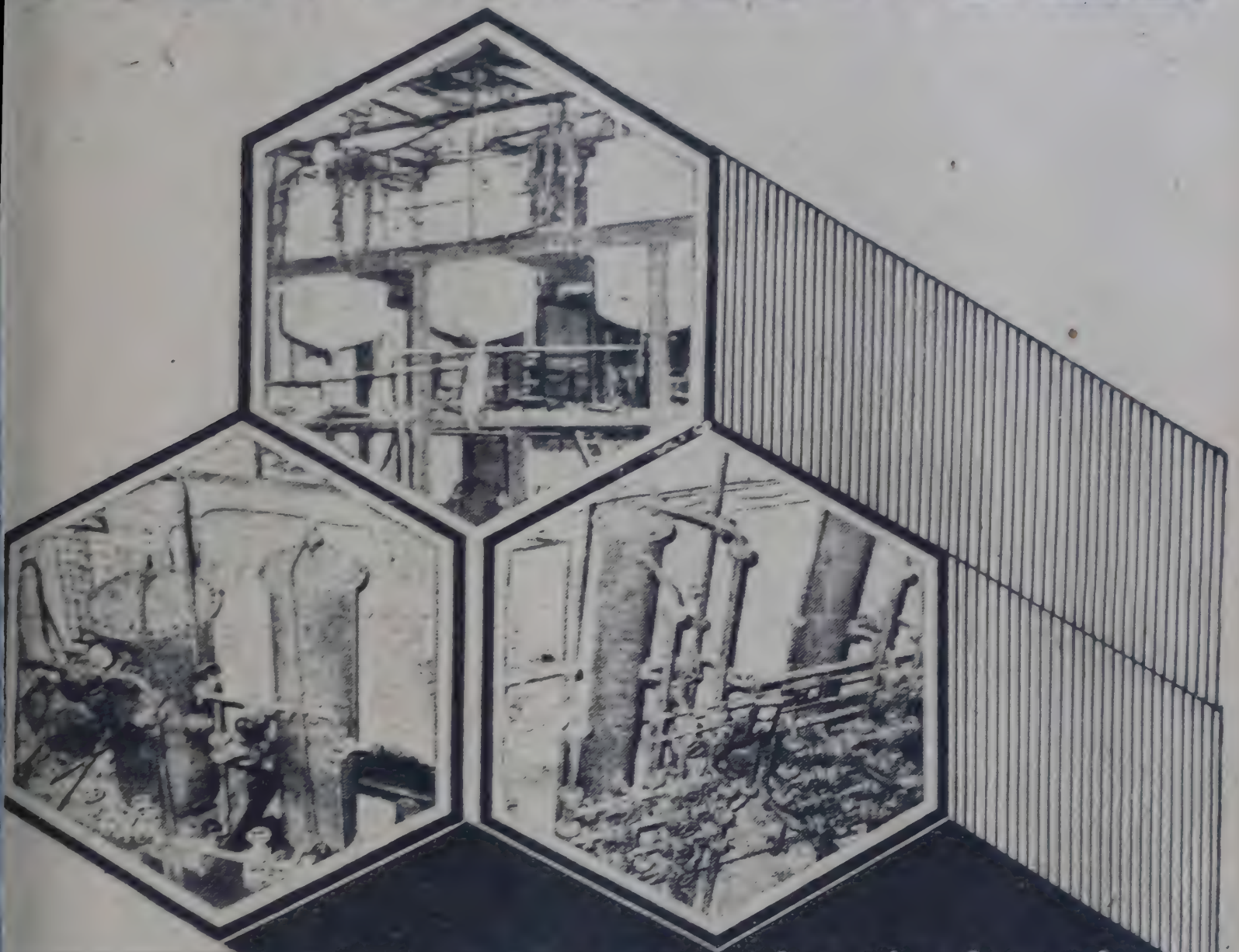
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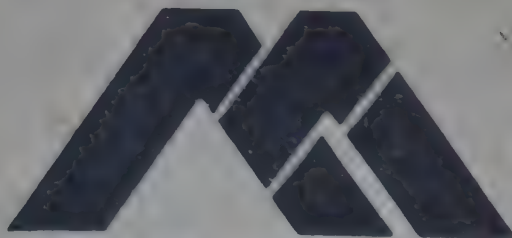
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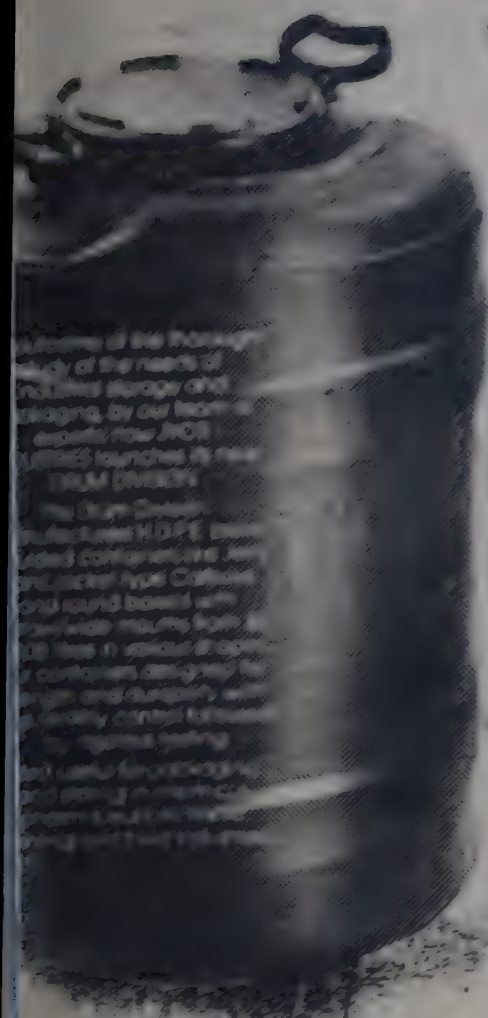
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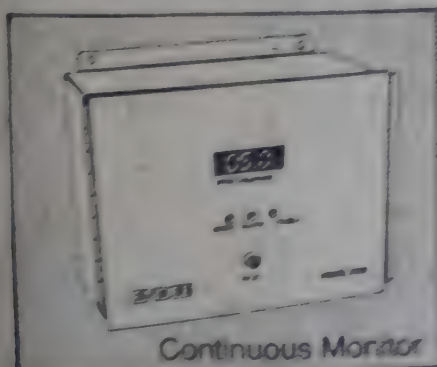
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# MARKET INFORMATION

## Acrylamide Spurts Further

acute shortage of acrylamide led up its prices by Rs. 15 to 110 per kg. Seasonal demand led prices of hyflosupercell to 20. Non availability of Czech

material pushed price of rangolite to Rs. 65 per kg. Aniline oil went up by Rs. 3 to Rs. 71 per kg. Low activity kept intermediates prices at previous levels.

We cannot guarantee the accuracy of the prices published in CHEMICAL WEEKLY as they are based only on the enquiries made by our correspondent - and, as such they are not FIRM PRICES as between a buyer and seller. The prices are published only with a view to giving some ideas of the market conditions.

The prices are inclusive of Excise and Maharashtra Sales Tax.

(Prices as on August 14, 1989)

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Ammonium phosphate (Mono)	14.50	Borax (Powder)	15.25	Cresylic acid	52.00
Ammonium phosphate (Di)	14.00	Boric acid (Tech)	28.00	Camphor (Indian)	105.00
Ammonium carbonate (Di)	17.00	Bisphenol-A	82.00	Cream of Tartar (Tech.) China	70.00
Ammonium bicarbonate	5.60	Butyl carbitol	110.00	Citric acid (Belgium) (Resale)	47.00
Ammonium chloride	3.00	Caustic soda (Flakes)	14.00	Citric acid (Indian) (Resale)	47.00
Ammonium nitrate	6.00	Caustic soda (Solid)	12.00	Copper sulphate	24.00
Calcium white powder	24.00	Caustic soda (Lye)	10.00	Chromic acid	61.00
Acrylamide (Resale)	110.00	Calcium chloride 70% (Solid)	3.25	Ethylene urea	58.00
Sodium carbonate	6.00	Calcium chloride 75-80%(fused)	3.50	Ferric chloride (Lumps)	5.50
Finishing powder (33% Cl)	4.20	Calcium chloride 36% (Anhydrous)	5.00	Ferric chloride (Anhydrous)	16.00
		Calcium carbonate (precipitated)	4.25	Glue flakes	15.00
		Calcium carbonate (Activated)	4.75	Glue sheets	6.75
				Gohsenol GH-17	115.00
				Hydro	38+ST

CHEMICALS

FERTILIZERS

SUGAR, CEMENT

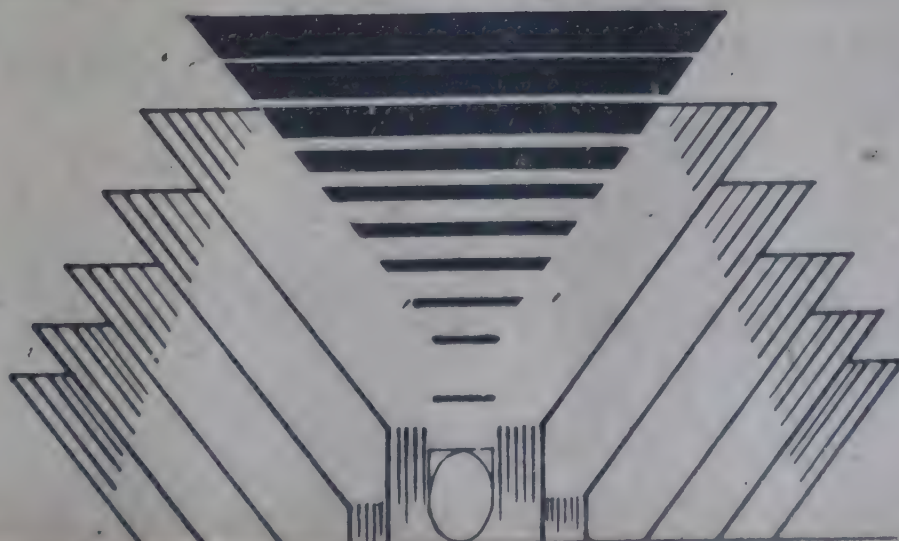
PHARMACEUTICALS

RESINS & INTERMEDIATES

OTHER INDUSTRIES

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Application  
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ration



Hyflosupercell	20.00	Sodium sulphide 58-60% (Flakes) (TCL)	20.00	Butanol	34
Hexamine (Resale)	35.00	Sodium sulphide pure (Flakes)	12.25	Benzyl Alcohol	6
Industrial Wax	25.00	Sodium nitrite (Resale) per 50 kg.	680.00	Benzyl Chloride	3
Litharge	40.00	Sodium chlorite 80% (Spain)	88.00	Benzo trichloride	1
Lead Acetate (Tech.)	31.25	Soda Ash (Tata)	5.00	Benzoyl chloride	2
Lithopone	18.50+ST	Soda Ash (Birla)	4.50	Bromine Liquid	7
Magnesium chloride (Crystal)	2.25+ST	Soda Ash (Imp.)	4.50	Chloroform	3
Menthol crystal (Flakes)	900+Ex+ST	Sodium bicarbonate	7.50	Carbon Tetrachloride	67
Menthol bold	665+Ex+ST	Sodium bisulphite	4.50	Cellosolve	54
Menthol crystal cold	700+Ex+ST	Sodium silicate	3.00	Cyclohexanone	58
Magnesium carbonate (Japan)	16.00	Sodium acetate	5.00	Cyclohexanol	3
Magnesium carbonate (Indian)	18.00	Sodium alginate	250+ST	Diacetone (Resale)	3
Maleic Anhydride (Resale)	39.00	Titanium Dioxide (Anatase)	130+ST	Diethyl Oxalate	4
Mercury (34.5 Kgs)	12,000.00	Titanium Dioxide (Rutile - RCR <sub>2</sub> )	150.00	Diethyl glycol (DEG)	4
Nickel chloride	110.00	Tartaric acid	100.00	Diethyl Phthalate	4
Oxalic acid (Resale)	22.00	Trisodium phosphate	5.50	Diallyl Phthalate	5
Peppermint oil (Rectified)	195+Ex+ST	Thiourea	80.00	Dimethyl Phthalate	2
Potassium carbonate (Indian)	30.00	Urea (Tech.)	2.90	Diethyl Adipate	5
Potassium carbonate (Imported)	32.00	Vacuum salt	1.00	Dibutyl Adipate	4
Potassium bichromate	32.50+ST	Zinc Dust	32.00	Dipentene	1
Potassium phosphate (Mono)	14.00	Zinc Oxide	52.00	Dimethylamine 40%	2
Potassium phosphate (Di)	14.00	Zinc chloride powder (Tech.)	12.50	Dimethylamine 50%	3
Polyvinyl alcohol (No. 117)	115.00	Zinc sulphate	7.00	Ethyl Acetate	1
Polyvinyl alcohol (No. 173)	120.00			Ethyl Acrylate	6
Polyvinyl alcohol (No. 208)	150.00			Ethylene Dichloride	4
Paraformaldehyde (Resale)	23+ST	<b>SOLVENTS</b>	<b>Per Kg.</b>	Ethylene Glycol	4
Phthalic anhydride 36% (Resale)	25.50	Acetic Acid Glacial (Resale)	14.50	Formic Acid (Imp.)	1
Pentaerythritol (Resale)	45.00	Acetic Anhydride (Resale)	29.00	Formaldehyde (Resale)	1
Paraffin wax	20+ST	Acetone (Resale)	23.00	Glycerine (CP)	1
Rangolite (German)	80+ST	Adipic Acid	57.00	Glycerine (IW)	1
Rangolite (Czech.)	65+ST	Aceto Acetanilide	55.00	Hydrogen Peroxide 50% (Resale)	1
Sodium sulphate (Fine)	6.00	Aniline Oil	71.00	Isopropyl Alcohol	1
Sodium sulphate (Coarse)	5.00	Benzoate Plasticiser	62.00	Isobutyl Alcohol (Resale)	1
Sodium sulphide 50-52% (Flakes)	11+ST	Butyl acrylate	78+ST	Monoethanolamine (Resale)	1
		Butyl stearate	50.00	Melamine	1
				Methyl Ethyl Ketone	1
				Methyl Isobutyl Ketone	1
				Methyl Acrylate	1
				Methyl Dichloride (Resale)	1

**Available Best Quality From Manufacturers:**  
**SODIUM SULPHIDE 50-52%**  
**(Flakes, Solid, Bits)**  
**SULPHUR ROLL & SULPHUR POWDER**  
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Gram: "MANGALPUJA", Bomb

Factory: Plot No. N-27, MIDC, Tarapur Industrial Area, Boisar, Dist. Thane (Maharashtra)



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GLYOXAL 40% \* E.D.C.  
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DOLOMITE POWDER  
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Contact:

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Phone Nos.: 6407778/6424736 Gram: MULTIORG, Bombay-51  
Telex: 011-74530 MOL IN

Factory: A-1, MIDC Industrial Area, Chandrapur-442 401 (M.S.).  
Phone: 7-54 Telex: 716-213 MORG-IN



Carbitol	68+ST
Meta Cresol	60.00
Nitrobenzene	30.50
Nitric Acid (Conc.) (RCF)	2.50
Ortho Cresol	30+ST
Phenol (Resale)	37.00
Propylene Glycol	55.00
Polyethylene Glycol (No.200)	52.00
Polyethylene Glycol (No.400)	53.00
Polyethylene Glycol (No.500)	42.00
Polyethylene Glycol (No.1600)	14.00
Polyethylene Glycol (No.4000)	70.00
Polyethylene Glycol (No.6000)	85.00
Para Cresol	110.00
Styrene Monomer	36.00
Sorbitol	14.00
Sulphuric Acid	2.80
Trichloroethylene	29.00
Triethanolamine (Resale)	65.00
Turpentine Oil (Germany)	8.00
Turkey Red Oil (50%)	20.00
Vinyl Acetate Monomer	47.50

#### SOLVENTS

Per Litre

Benzene	11.00
N-Heptane	10.50
N-Hexane	12.00
Methanol	13.00
Solvent Naphtha Heavy	10.50
Solvent Naphtha Light	8.50
Toluene	21.00
Xylene	24.50

#### DYES INTERMEDIATES (PRICES ARE WITHOUT TAX AND EXCISE)

Alphanaphthylamine	63.00
Alpha Naphthol (Imp.)	190.00
Aceto Acetic Ester (Methyl)	66.00
Ammonium Molybdate	215.00
Anthraquinone	130.00
Anthranilic Acid	75.00
2-Amino 4-Nitrophenol	150.00
Blue B. Base (Local)	255.00
Beta Naphthol (Atul)	75.00
Benzidine Dihydrochloride (BDH)	98.00
Bromamine Acid	500.00
BON Acid	130+Ex+Ta
Chicago Acid IRS	330.00
Coach Acid	55.00
C. Acid (Imp.)	165.00
Cyanuric Chloride	135.00
2,4- DNCB	31.00
Dihydrothio PTOS (Imp.)	1,000.00
Dimethyl Aniline	70.00
Diethyl Aniline	185.00
Diamino stilbene	
disulphonic acid	165.00
3,3-DCB (Imp.)	175.00
Gamma Acid (Atul)	200.00
H. Acid (Atul)	110.00
G. Salt	75.00
Isophthalic Acid	45.00
J. Acid	330.00
J. Acid Urea	400.00
K. Acid	127.00
MPDS (German)	190.00

MNA	125
Meta Ureido Aniline	235
MPD (Local)	215
MPD (Japan)	250
Naphthenic Acid	40
N-Methyl J. Acid	540
N-Methyl Aniline	130
Naphthalene (Refined)	21
Ortho Anisidine (OA) (Imp.)	10
Ortho Dichloro Benzene (ODCB)	1
OT Base	11
Para Dichloro Benzene (PDCB)	2
Para Anisidine (PA local)	15
PNA	10
Para Cresidine (Imp.)	40
Para Amino Azo Benzene	
(India)	19
PNCB	4
Para Amino Acetanilide	17
1-Phenyl 3-Methyl	
5-Pyrazolone	15
Phenyl J. Acid	37
Para Amino Benzoic Acid	13
PT Base	16
Rhoduline Acid	50
Resist Salt 80%	
Resorcinol	10
Sodium Naphthionate	
5-Sulpho-Anthranilic Acid	
Sulphanilic Acid	
Sulpho Tobias Acid	1
Trichloro Benzene (TCB)	
Tobias Acid	1
Metanilic Acid	
MTD	

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**REACTIVE YELLOW 2/15/24/37/42/81/84/135**

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# Bombay Dyes Market

(Prices as on August 14, 1989)

ACID COLOURS	Per Kg.
Acid Violet 4BS	*190.00
Acid Maroon V	110.00
Acid Orange II	112.55
Acid Orange ILY	93.85
Acid Red A	137.00
Acid Scarlet 3R	128.35
Acid Red 3BN	*195.00
Acid Red R2R	132.00
Acid Red RS	88.00
Acid Patent Blue AS	*280.00
Acid Green V	*375.00
Acid Coomasi Blue	200.00
Acid Yellow 5GN	65.00
Acid Red PG	85.00
Acid Red GRS	78.00
Acid Black 10 BX	157.15
Acid Black BX	126.95
Acid Black Wax	135.50
Crosein Scarlet MOO	200.30
Procinil Yellow GS (ICI, UK)	265.00
Procinil Red GS (ICI, UK)	530.00
Procinil Blue RS (ICI, UK)	315.00
Procinil Scarlet G (ICI, UK)	600.00
Procinil Orange G (ICI, UK)	250.00
Procinil Rubine (ICI, UK)	550.00

\* To get resale price add 6% tax.

DIRECT COLOURS	Per Kg.
Yellow 3GX	114.00
Gun Yellow RCH	175.85
Fast Yellow GCH	171.50
Yellow CFG Hly. Conc.	721.00
Fast Yellow GS	126.96
Fast Yellow CHRS	116.85
Viscose Orange A	210.35
Fast Orange GR	171.50
Red	122.65
Dark Tan	98.15
Red IIR	98.15
Red 4B	217.55
Bordeaux BW	170.10
Fast Scarlet 4BS	223.50
Red 12B	220.45
Bordeaux Hly. Conc.	249.20
Cotton Red N	117.05
Brill. Fast Helio B	362.85

Brill. Fast Helio 2R	385.85
Brill. Fast Helio 2RS	177.30
Brill. Fast Helio BS	116.10
Brill. Violet Extra	181.45
Blue 2B	102.50
Blue G	220.45
Sky Blue FB	242.00
Copper Blue GR	190.25
Fast Greenish Blue GL	114.60
Developed Black BT	149.95
Blue NB-2B	348.45
Blue NB-2BG	214.70
Developed Black NB-GHB	214.70
Green B	142.75
Green NB-B	218.90
Green 2B-N	218.90
Brown MR	197.40
Brown CN	137.00
Golden Brown G	175.85
Catechin G	155.70
Omega Tan	161.45
Catechin GS	102.80
Black E Hly. Conc.	180.15
Black E Extra Hly. Conc.	180.15
Black NB-ER Hly. Conc.	290.50

## DISPERSOL COLOURS Per Kg.

Red B 3B Conc	611.50
Red B 2B Conc	797.90
Red CB Powder	1048.25
Red D2B Powder	589.85
Violet C 4R Conc.	1202.70
Blue BG Conc	580.65
Blue BN Powder	128.20
Blue D 2R Powder	588.25
Navy BT Conc	531.95
Blue B 2G Conc	577.95
Black BT Conc	319.50
Blue BR	482.40
Yellow 7GL	813.20
Yellow 5RX	269.90
Yellow 3G	473.20
Yellow	140.00
Yellow AL	167.20
Yellow Brown REL	311.70
Yellow FFL	571.40
Gold Yellow GG	320.80
Pink REL	593.00
Red BEL	615.60

Red 2B	422
Red FB	425
Red Violet FBL	622
Orange 3R	254
Violet 3R	370
Violet RL	355
Violet 6R	638
Scarlet RR	283
Rubine 3B	289
Rubine CB	449
Blue GL	419
Blue BGF	809
Navy Blue RE	359
Brown 3REL	279
Black GEL	429
Dark Brown 3B	41

## BASE COLOURS

BASE COLOURS	Per
Fast Yellow GC	7
Fast Orange GC	12
Fast Scarlet R	19
Fast Scarlet RC	12
Fast Scarlet RCR	10
Fast Scarlet G	1
Fast Scarlet GN	9
Fast Scarlet GG	
Fast Scarlet GGS	
Fast Red B	23
Fast Red RC	1
Fast Red R Flakes	1
Fast Red TR	1
Fast Red TR Oil	2
Fast Red RL	2
Fast Red KB Oil	2
Fast Bordeaux GP	2
Fast Garnet GBC	1
Fast Violet B	5
Fast Blue BB	5

## NAPHTHOL COLOURS

NAPHTHOL COLOURS	Pe
ASG	
AS	
ASSW	
ASBS	
ASBO	
ASD	
ASOL	



STR	369.00	Blue H-FRD	305.80	Brill. Purple 2R Hly Conc.	744.25
SPH	336.05	Navy Blue H3R	333.75	Brill. Purple 4R Supra Disp.	604.25
SE	236.00	Blue H 5RX	286.20	Brill. Purple 2R Acra Conc.	779.85
SEL	249.95	Navy Blue M3R	355.70	Blue 2R Powder Fine	675.30
SLB	2002.35	Brill. Blue MR	405.60	Blue BC Acra Con Pdr. Fine	1013.15
SBT	2459.45	Brill. Blue M RX	214.20	Blue BC Conc. Pdr. Fine	713.65
SWG	143.00	Brill. Blue M-G	226.45	Blue R Conc. Pdr. Fine	719.70
SSG	538.65	Blue M 4GD	369.40	Blue Conc. Powder	645.80
SR	652.60	Navy Blue M RB	341.85	Brill. Blue 2R Hly. Conc.	378.55
		Turquoise M-G	240.30	Blue RR Supra Powder	629.35
		Brill. Blue M GX	516.25	Brill. Blue 2R Supra Disp.	115.65
<b>OCION COLOURS</b>		Blue 3R Acra Powder	718.20	Dark Blue 2R Powder Fine	512.65
	<b>Per Kg.</b>	Dark Brown H 6R	248.45	Blue BC Supra Disp.	419.65
Golden Yellow HR	207.95	Cobalt Oxide	285.00	Jade Green XBN Powder Fine	555.80
Ill. Yellow H4G	145.65	Green H4BD	287.00	Jade Green XBN Acra	
Supra Yellow H-8GP	168.55	Green H-E4BI	169.80	Conc. Pdr	1026.05
Il. Yellow HE6G	214.75	Red Brown H IF	143.25	Jade Green 2G Pdr. Fine	533.25
Yellow G-E4R	276.05	Orange Brown H 28	209.05	Jade Green 2G Ptg. Paste	125.40
Il. Yellow H7G	332.30	Brown M GRN	188.80	Jade Green XBN Ptg. Paste	126.00
Yellow M4R	275.45	Black H-N	314.20	Jade Green 2G Supra Disp.	618.00
Yellow MGR	387.65			Olive D Pdr. Fine	563.90
Il. Yellow M4G	201.15			Olive Green B Supra Disp.	421.70
Il. Yellow M8G	366.10	<b>SULPHUR COLOURS</b>	<b>Per Kg.</b>	Jade Green XBN Supra Disp. (N)	327.30
Yellow M3R	244.70	Navy Blue	210.35	Olive OMW Powder Fine	698.55
Il. Orange H2R	303.80	Green G	194.55	Olive OMW Supra Disp.	538.05
Il. Red H7B	157.95	Black Grains Extra	72.25	Olive D Supra Disp.	361.70
Il. Orange M2R	313.15	Black Grains OG	73.70	Olive R Supra Disp.	470.25
Il. Red H8B	213.55	Black GXE Conc.	70.85	Olive D. Ptg. Paste	193.00
Il. Scarlet H RN	245.05	Black GXE	57.90	Olive Green B Ptg. Paste	199.10
Orange Red H-3BP	179.80	Black GXR	69.40	Olive Green B Acra Conc.	741.10
Il. Red H-F3B	243.45	Black Grains 800	62.80	Olive R Acra Conc.	779.85
Il. Magenta HB	182.00	Black EXR Grains	73.70	Brown R Pdr. Fine	869.45
Il. Red M 5B	160.05	Black EXR Grains 800	59.35	Dark Brown 3R Fine	826.25
Il. Red M 8B	218.35			Brown G Supra Disp.	582.05
Il. Pink MB	137.10			Brown 2G Supra Disp.	716.10
Il. Magenta MB	163.65	<b>VAT COLOURS (ICI)</b>	<b>Per Kg.</b>	Brown R Supra Disp.	547.35
Il. Purple H-3R	219.55	Yellow 5G Supra Disperse	561.85	Brown BR Powder	867.75
Il. Purple H-7R	175.40	Yellow 5G Acra Conc	818.60	Dark Brown 3R Ptg. Paste	217.15
Blue H 3R	333.75	Gold Orange 3G Pdr. Fine	1158.45	Dark Brown 3R Supra Disp.	529.00
Il. Blue H-GR	406.40	Brill. Orange 6R Pdr. Fine	624.35	Brown G Acra Conc.	967.95
Il. Blue H5G	207.95	Gold Orange 3G Supra Disp	693.85	Brown M. Powder Fine	768.80
Blue H 5RX	286.20	Brill. Orange 6RX Powder	394.30	Grey M. Supra Disp.	585.45
Il. Blue H 7G	213.95	Brill. Red 3B Pdr. Fine	1214.15	Blue BC Acra Conc. Pdr. Fine	762.70
Il. Blue H 7RX	358.15	Brill. Red 3B Supra Disp	867.45	Direct Black AC Supra Disp.	415.75
Turquoise HA	265.05	Brill. Purple 3R Acra Powder	827.05	Direct Black AC Pdr. Fine	574.70
Orange Blue H-3RP	595.30			Direct Black CH Supra Disp.	490.45
Orange Turquoise H 2G P	181.50			Direct ACD Ptg. Paste	217.15



# Delhi Market

**DELHI: AUGUST 11, (NNS)** A sharp rise of Rs. 29 per kg in menthol flake provided the main feature of trading in the Delhi chemical market during last week, reports NNS. Other chemicals exhibited a mixed trend. Menthol flake jumped up from Rs. 255 to Rs. 290 per kg on account of heavy mutual speculation among so-called speculators for August, Diwali and December delivery but at the weekend due to fresh profit, taking selling by stockists it reacted downward and closed at Rs. 284, showing a net profit of Rs. 29 over last week levels. Menthol medium and bold quoted higher by Rs. 10 each at Rs. 320 and Rs. 350 per kg respectively on account of restricted inflow from U.P. Similarly mentha oil Shivalik and MS 1 hardened from Rs. 190 and Rs. 200 to Rs. 235 and Rs. 245 on speculative demand but later it slipped by Rs. 20 each and closed at Rs. 215 and Rs. 225 per kg. DMO held steady at the previous level of Rs. 110. Menthol flake December delivery was transacted at Rs. 355 per kg.

On account of heavy buying support by the traders of South for forthcoming festivals, camphor powder and thal hardened by Rs. 1/2 at Rs. 107 and Rs. 118 per kg respectively. Titanium dioxide went up by Rs. 3 at Rs. 124 per kg owing to

restricted supply by companies. Titanium dioxide anatase K brand of Calcutta was traded at Rs. 108 per kg, RC-822 also jumped up from Rs. 150 to Rs. 155 due to shortage of supply and sustained demand shown by plastic and paint units.

Soda ash Tata and Birla moved up from Rs. 350 to Rs. 355 on good demand by detergent powder manufacturers as well as dwindling supply. Soda ash Nal and Gujarat was quoted at Rs. 340 and Rs. 345 per kg. Ammonia bicarb and caustic soda flake quoted cheaper by Rs. 5 each on improved supply. As a result of slack demand paraffin wax suffered a fall of Rs. 20 at Rs. 820 while slack wax recorded a sharp rise of Rs. 100 at Rs. 9,100 in the wake of sustained demand shown by refineries. Sodium sulphate advanced by Rs. 50 at Rs. 3,250/3,350. Chatkolute eased by Re. 1 at Rs. 62/kg and sodium hydrosulphite Damosha, Tamilnadu and Germany softened by 50 paise at Rs. 36 each per kg. Sodium hydro Gulshan and Kalali quoted cheaper at Rs. 34 and Rs. 37 in the absence of demand from gur and khandsari manufacturers.

Basic rhodamine local slipped by Rs. 25 at Rs. 300 per kg on account of reduced prices of raw material while Atul's basic rhodamine held steady at Rs. 425.

## (DELHI MARKET RATES AS ON AUGUST 11, 1989)

Ammonia Bicarb (Per 25 Kg.)	150.00	Sodium Bicarbonate (50 Kg.)	290/300.00
Mercury (Per flask)	11,600.00	Sodium Hydrosulphite (Per Kg.)	34.00/37.00
Soda ash (Per bag)	335/355.00	Rangolite (Per Kg.)	62.00/77.00
Ammonium Chloride (50 Kg.)	110/180.00	Boric acid Technical (Per 50 Kg.)	1,400.00
Caustic soda flakes (50 Kg.)	590/595.00	Paraffin Wax (Per 50 Kg.)	820.00
Citric acid (Per 50 Kg.)	2,160/2,500.00	Tartaric Acid (Per 50 Kg.)	10,750.00
Stable Bleaching Powder		Borax Granular (Per 50 Kg.)	700.00
Shriram (Per 25 Kg.)	100.00	Borax Crystal (Per 50 Kg.)	705.00
Stable Bleaching Powder KCl		Sodium Nitrite (Per 50 Kg.)	700/760.00
(Per 25 Kg.)	95.00	Sodium Nitrate (Per 50 Kg.)	425.00
Stable Bleaching Powder		Camphor Thal (Per Kg.)	118.00
Maruti (Per 25 Kg.)	90.00	Camphor Powder (Per Kg.)	107.00
Stable Bleaching Powder		Menthol Bold (Per Kg.)	350.00
Modi (Per 25 Kg.)	98.00	Menthol Medium (Per Kg.)	320.00

Menthol Flake (Per Kg.)	284.00
Glycerine (Per Kg.)	55/58.00
Sodium Silicate (Per quintal)	250/300.00
Hexamine (Per Kg.)	30.00
Acetic Acid Glacial (Per Kg.)	14.00
Copper Sulphate	
(Per quintal)	2,350/2,700.00
Formic Acid (Per Kg.)	25.00
Formaldehyde (Per Kg.)	8.00
Hydrogen Peroxide (Per Kg.)	27.00
Calcium Carbonate	
(Per Tonne)	2,500/4,000.00
Acid Slurry Soft (Per Kg.)	24.00
Acid Slurry Hard (Per Kg.)	34.00
Phosphoric Acid (Per 50 Kg.)	1,050.00
Potassium Nitrate	
(Per quintal)	900/1,200.00
Potassium Permanganate	
(Per 50 Kg.)	2,800/3,200.00
Sodium Bichromate	
(Per 50 Kg.)	1,575/1,600.00
Trisodium Phosphate (50 Kg.)	525.00
Titanium Dioxide Anatase (Per Kg.)	124.00
Titanium Dioxide RC-822 (Per Kg.)	155.00
Titanium Dioxide K-Brand (Per Kg.)	108.00
Titanium Dioxide RCR-2 (Per Kg.)	155.00
Zinc Oxide	
(Per metric tonne)	42,000/52,000.00
Phenol Carbolic Acid (Per Kg.)	37.00
Carbon Tetrachloride (Per Kg.)	24.00
Chloroform (Per Kg.)	28.00
Sodium Sulphate	
(Per metric tonne)	3,250/3,550.00
Naphthalene Balls (Per 50 Kg.)	1,325.00

DYES & COLOURS	(Per Kg.)
Naphthol AS	175/201.00
Naphthol ASG	180/295.00
Naphthol ASBS	210/245.00
Naphthol ASTR	265/360.00
Naphthol ASOL	210/235.00
Naphthol ASBO	195/260.00

DIRECT DYES	(Per Kg.)
Black E. Conc.	110/175.00
Diazo Black B.T.	105/140.00
Green B	90/140.00
Blue 2-B	60/100.00
Blue 2-B 225% (JNR)	120.00
Sky Blue FB	160/230.00
Basic Auramine	55/110.00
Basic Rhodamine	300/420.00
Basic Methylene Blue	100/180.00
Basic Violet	150/180.00
Basic Malachite Green	150/160.00
Acid Orange	75/110.00
Congo Red H/C	75/120.00



Madras Market

market remained sluggish much activity was seen. as a slump in caustic soda prices and the keenness of manufacturers to unload the in the market, may make drop further in the course of

the next few weeks. Hence buyers are cautious in their commitments. Availability of NOCIL's solvents continues to be difficult as packed supplies are not forthcoming in good measure. Hexamine prices are showing an upward trend.

Magnesium Chloride (per kg)	3.50
Maleic Anhydride (per kg)	40.00
Menthol Crystals (per kg)	300.00
Oxalic Acid (per kg)	24.00
Paraffin Wax (per kg)	24.00
Potassium Bichromate (per kg)	36.00
Phosphoric Acid (per kg)	22.00
Polyvinyl Alcohol powder (per kg)	130.00
Pentaerythritol (per kg)	52.00
Phthalic Anhydride (per kg)	30.00
Soda Ash (TAC) (per 75 kgs)	385.00
Soda Ash (TATA) (per 75 kgs)	385.00
Sodium Bicarbonate (TATA) (per 50 kgs)	275.00
Sodium Silicate (per MT)	3,000.00
Sodium Bichromate (per kg)	28.00
Sodium Nitrate (per kg)	8.00
Sodium Nitrite (per kg)	15.00
Sodium Sulphide Flakes (per kg)	12.00
Sodium Bisulphite (per kg)	4.50
Sodium Alginate (per kg)	210.00
Sodium Acetate (per kg)	7.00
Sodium Sulphate (Anhydrous) (per kg)	3.00
Titanium Dioxide (Anatase) (per kg)	135.00
Titanium Dioxide (Rutile) (per kg)	145.00
Trisodium Phosphate (per kg)	7.00
Urea (Technical) (per kg)	3.00
Zinc Oxide (per kg)	54.00
Zinc Chloride Powder (per kg)	12.50
Zinc Sulphate (per kg)	7.00

MADRAS MARKET RATES AS ON AUGUST 12, 1989)

d Glacial (per kg)	16.50	Calcium Carbonate (Precipitated) (per MT)	5,000.00
i Sulphate Iron free )	4,000.00	Citric Acid (per kg)	47.00
n Bicarbonate kgs)	150.00	Copper Sulphate (per kg)	24.00
n Chloride (per MT)	3,000.00	Cresylic Acid 98-99% (per kg)	120.00
y (per kg)	28.00	Pure Para Cresol 96% (per kg)	80.00
arbonate (per kg)	6.00	Meta Para Cresol 42% (per kg)	47.00
hloride (per kg)	5.50	Formic Acid (per kg)	28.00
d Technical (per kg)	27.00	Formaldehyde (per kg)	8.50
Powder (per 50 kgs)	250.00	Glue Flakes (per kg)	15.00
r 50 kgs)	700.00	Glycerine (per kg)	49.00
oda Flakes -- Mettur als (per MT)	12,000.00	Hydrosulphite of Soda (TCPL) (per kg)	41.00
oda Flakes -- Andhra (per MT)	12,000.00	Hydrosulphite of Soda (IDI) (per kg)	43.00
hloride 70% Solid T)	3,000.00	Hydrosulphite of Soda (BASF) (per kg)	43.00
hloride Anhydrous T)	5,000.00	Hexamine (per kg)	34.00
Carbonate (Activated) T)	6,000.00	Hyflo Supercell (per kg)	20.00
		Hydrogen Peroxide (per kg)	30.00
		Litharge (per kg)	40.00
		Lead Acetate (per kg)	42.00
		Magnesium Carbonate (per kg)	19.50

SOLVENTS

Acetone -- HOCL (per kg)	18.75
Butanol (per kg)	36.00
Butyl Acetate (per kg)	44.00
Benzene (per lit)	17.00
Cellosolve (per kg)	50.00
Carbon Tetra Chloride (per kg)	23.00
Chloroform (per kg)	28.00
Diacetone Alcohol (per kg)	29.50
Diethylene Glycol (per kg)	47.00
Dichloroethane (per kg)	17.00
Di-octyl Phthalate (per kg)	50.00
Di-N-butyl Phthalate (per kg)	50.00
Ethyl Acetate (per kg)	20.00
Isopropyl Alcohol (per kg)	30.00
Methanol (per kg)	12.00
Methylene Chloride (per kg)	22.00
Methyl Ethyl Ketone (per kg)	42.00
Methyl Isobutyl Ketone (per kg)	39.00
Phenol (per kg)	38.00
Sorbitol (per kg)	15.00
Triethanolamine (per kg)	60.00
Trichloroethylene (per kg)	25.00
1-1-1 Trichloroethane (per kg)	28.00
Turpentine (per lit)	17.00
Toluene (per lit)	22.00
Xylene (per lit)	24.00



# Shipping News

## VESSELS DUE IN BOMBAY FOR EXPORT LOADING

Due Date (1)	Steamer's Name & Flag (2)	Agents (3)	Will load for (4)	At sail (5)
20/8	Eagle Star (V-015)	F.F.C. Co.	Los Angeles (Harbour); Longbeach; Sanfrancisco; Oakland; Seattle; Vancouver (B.C.); Portland; New York; Boston; Norfolk; Baltimore; Charleston; Savannah; Miami; New Orleans; Houston; Montreal; Toronto; Fortworth; Chicago; Nashville; Atlanta; Philadelphia; Milwaukee; Kansas City; Phoenix; Gaum; Dallas; Cleveland; St. Louis; Cincinnati; Denver; Louisville; Memphis; Wilmington (B.C.); San Diego; Minneapolis; Indianapolis and Central American ports; Honolulu. (Carting at Timber Pond No. 1).	
22/8	Chandidas (Ind)	S.C.I.	New York; Baltimore; Savannah (Direct) and other inland destinations. (Carting at Timber Pond No. 1).	
23/8	Ocean Strength (Voy-15A/B)	O.S.A.	New York; Baltimore; Philadelphia; Houston; Boston; Chicago; Dallas; Atlanta; Savannah; Norfolk; Charleston; Los Angeles; Sanfrancisco; Oakland; Seattle; Vancouver; Toronto; Montreal; Portland; Tacoma & S. American and W. Indies Ports. (Carting M-178/180 Cotton Depot).	
25/8	Uni Pioneer (Voy-012)	Greenways	New York; Newark; Baltimore; Charleston; New Orleans; Houston; Boston; Providence (RI); Philadelphia; Norfolk; Savannah; Jacksonville; Wilmington; Miami; Montreal; Toronto; Bermuda; Los Angeles; Longbeach; Sanfrancisco; Oakland; San Diego; Stockton; Richmond; Almeida; Redwood City; Sacramento; Seattle; Portland; Vancouver (B.C.); Tacoma; Longview; Chicago; Dallas; various inland destinations and Caribbean ports. (Carting at G/H Cotton Depot).	
26/8	Waterkoning	Merzario	Dakar; Abidjan; Monrovia; Lome; Douala; P. Noire; Matadi; Libreville; Cotonou; P. Gentil; Lagos; P. Harcourt; Warri; Freetown; Conakry; Louanda; Nouakchott; Guinea; Blassa. (Carting at M.O.D. No. 2).	
Stream	Pazin (Yug)	Oceanic	Jeddah; Rijeka.	
Stream	Petr Dutov (Rus)	Transocean	Odessa; Illychevsk; Havana (Cuba); Genoa; Trieste; Piraeus; Marseilles; Barcelona; Varna; Bourgas. (Carting at Timber Pond No. 1).	
15/8	Drvar (Yug)	Oceanic	P. Said; Rijeka.	
20/8	Mereike	U.L.A.	Aden; Hodeidah; P. Sudan; Djibouti.	
22/8	Tibor Szamuely (Rus)(V-101 W/B)	Transocean	Odessa; Izmail; Reni (USSR); Russe (Bulgaria); Budapest (Hungary); Linz; Vienna (Austria); Bratislava (Czechoslovakia); Degendorf; Reganborg (West Germany). (All ports on River Danube). (Carting at N/O-PD & G-PD).	
20/8	Eagle Star	F.F.C. Co.	Jeddah; P. Sudan; Hodeidah. (Carting at Timber Pond No. 1).	
22/8	Chandidas (Ind)	S.C.I.	Felixstowe; Hamburg; Rotterdam; Antwerp; Bremen; Liverpool; Le Havre; Manchester; Avonmouth; London; Belfast; Aarhus; Oslo; Copenhagen; Gothenburg; Helsinki and all inland destinations. (Carting at Timber Pond No.1).	
25/8	Uni Pioneer (V-012)(Pan)	Greenways	Hamburg; Felixstowe; Rotterdam; Antwerp; Le Havre; Leghorn; Genoa; Marseilles (Fos); Valencia; Barcelona; Limassol; Las Palmas; Casablanca; Istanbul. (Carting at G/H Cotton Depot).	
26/8	Waterkoning (Dut)	Samrat/ Hindustan/ Merzario	Felixstowe; Hamburg; Rotterdam. Also London; Liverpool; Leixoes; Lisbon; Manchester; Avonmouth; Wembly; Birmingham; Leicester; Le Havre; Amsterdam; Bremen; Antwerp; Copenhagen; Leeds; Aarhus; Gothenburg; Oslo; Stockholm; Helsinki; Belfast and all destinations in U.K. Benelux; Germany, Italy, France, Switzerland and Austria. (Carting at M.O.D. No. 2 for Merzario) (Carting at M.O.D. No. 1 for Samrat & Hindustan).	
Stream	Petr Dutov	Transocean	Afghanistan. (Carting at Timber Pond No. 3).	
20/8	Eagle Star	F.F.C. Co.	Colombo. (Carting at Timber Pond No. 1).	
21/8	Mercs Maho	Mackintosh	Karachi	
19/8	Mizoram (Ind)	S.C.I.	Main Japan ports.	
20/8	Eagle Star (V-015) (Cyp)	F.F.C. Co.	Penang; P. Kelang; Singapore; Bangkok; Jakarta (T. Priok); Hongkong; Manila; Busan; Keelung; Kaohsiung; Kobe; Yokohama; Nagoya; Osaka; Tokyo; Tsingtao; Dairen; Quangzhou; Whampoa; Shanghai; Hsingkang; Rangoon. (Carting at Timber Pond No. 1).	



(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Piran (Yug) Ocean Strength (Lib)(Voy-15 A/B)	Depe O.S.A./  M.S.P.L.	Hongkong; Keelung; Kaohsiung; Kobe; Yokohama; Busan. P. Kelang; Singapore; Kaohsiung;; Hongkong; Bangkok; Kobe; Yokohama; Nagoya; Moji; Osaka; Busan; Tokyo; Simizu; Keelung; Tsingtao; Quindao; Xiangang; Shanghai. (Carting at M-178/180 C.D. for O.S.A.). Singapore; Bangkok; P. Kelang; Penang; Jakarta; Manila. (Carting at Hay Bunder No. 4).	30/8
Uni Pioneer (V-012) (Pan)	Greenways	Singapore; Penang; Port Kelang; Bangkok; Djakarta; Surabaya; Manila; Cebu; Kaohsiung; Keelung; Osaka; Yokohama; Kobe; Shimizu; Moji; Nagoya; Pusan; Hongkong. (Carting at G/H Cotton Depot).	31/8
Eagle Star Ocean Strength	F.F.C. Co. O.S.A.	Brisbane; Fremantle; Sydney; Melbourne; Adelaide. (Crtg. T.P. No. 1). Sydney; Melbourne; Adelaide; Brisbane; Fremantle; Auckland; Wellington; Lyttelton; P. Chalmers. (Carting at M-178/180 C.D.).	25/8 30/8
Sira Trader (Nor)	I.L.S.A.	Dubai	23/8
Al Khansaa (Iraqi)	Al Rafidain	Umm Qasr (Iraq).	26/8
Eagle Star (V-015)	F.F.C. Co.	Dubai; Sharjah; Abu Dhabi; Doha; Muscat; Dammam; Riyadh; Bahrain; Kuwait. (Carting at Timber Pond No. 1).	25/8
Mareike (V-896)	U.L.A.	Dubai; Bahrain; Kuwait; Dammam; Riyadh; Abu Dhabi; Doha.	25/8
Vishva Nandini (Ind)	S.C.I.	Seychelles; P. Louis; Tamatave; Mombasa; Dar Es Salaam; Beira and inland destinations in E. Africa. (Carting at Timber Pond No. 1).	25/8

## VESSELS DUE IN BOMBAY FOR IMPORT DISCHARGE

ite	Steamer's Name	Agents	From
	Chandidas	S.C.I.	U.K. Cont./U.S.
	Shazli	Intermedal	Turkey
	Sulu Express	S.C.I.	U.K. Cont.
	Tibor Szamuely (Voy-101)	Transocean	Russia/E. Europe
	Vishva Siddhi	S.C.I.	Med. Ports

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- e. Styrene Monomer
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# Materials Imported

## BOMBAY

(From 1.5.89 to 3.5.89)

**CETO ACET PARA CHLORO  
LIDE TECH. DRY:** From FRG:  
arshan Chemical Inds. Ltd., 480  
, Rs. 93,880.

**CTIVATED BLEACHING  
RTH:** From FRG: MP Oils & Fats  
Ltd., 16 MTs., Rs. 1,00,057.

**EROSIL 200:** From Belgium:  
els Pharmaceuticals, 1,860 Kgs.,  
1,76,427; S.G. Pharmaceuticals,  
0 Kgs., Rs. 1,85,738.

**LBENDAZOLE:** From China:  
ckhardt Veterinary Pvt. Ltd., 100  
, Rs. 74,686.

**LDEHYDE C-12:** From FRG:  
ta Chemical Co., 150 Kgs.,  
37,773; From Swtizerland: Sun  
ort Corpn., 250 Kgs., Rs. 95,412.

**LUMINIUM HYDROXIDE  
VDER:** From FRG: Fort Gloster  
istries Ltd., 2 MTs., Rs. 32,737.

**LUMINIUM OXIDE SYNTHE-  
:** From Japan: Grindwell Norton  
, 12,500 Kgs., Rs. 5,94,215.

**LUMINIUM OXIDE:** From USA:  
o Plast Abrasives (I) Ltd., 500 Kgs.,  
42,819.

**LUMINIUM PASTE:** From UK:  
in Paints India Ltd., 800 Kgs.,  
92,208.

**MINO ACID CONC.:** From UK:  
M Ltd., 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 43,940.

**MINO ETHYL PROPYL  
THYL DIMETHOXY SILANE:**  
m FRG: Reliance Silicones Pvt.  
, 540 Kgs., Rs. 2,03,976.

**AMMONIA PURITY 99.99%:** From  
nce: Khandelwal Herrmann Elect.  
, 50 Kgs., Rs. 37,435.

**AMMONIUM PERSULPHATE:**  
m FRG: Sagar International, 5 MTs.,  
1,14,086; S.D. Fine Chem Pvt. Ltd.,  
MTs., Rs. 45,635.

**ANILINE OIL:** From FRG: Bayer  
India Ltd., 18,940 Kgs., Rs. 5,40,545.

**ANISALDEHYDE:** From Japan:  
Grauer & Weil India Ltd., 1,125 Kgs.,  
Rs. 1,75,953.

**ANTIMONY OXIDE:** From China:  
Neo Techno Chemicals, 10,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 3,02,919.

**ARSENIC ACID:** From UK: Indian  
Dyestuff Inds. Ltd., 3,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 91,017.

**2-B ACID TECH:** From Korea: Sud-  
arshan Chemical Inds. Ltd., 4,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 3,27,310.

**BENZALDEHYDE:** From Japan:  
Shashank Chemicals, 5,600 Kgs.,  
Rs. 1,43,196; From Netherlands: S.H.  
Kelkar and Co. Ltd., 10,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 2,61,219.

**BETA HYDROXY ETHYL HYD-  
RAZINE:** From Netherlands: Curefast  
Drugs & Intermediates, 600 Kgs.,  
Rs. 71,472.

**BETA NAPHTHOL:** From Hong  
Kong: Mardia Chemicals Ltd., 16 MTs.,  
Rs. 7,35,188.

**BIS PHENYL CARBOXYLAMINE  
PHENYL SULPHIDE:** From UK:  
Sankya Chemicals Ltd., 5,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 4,24,199.

**BORAX:** From USA: V.S. Syndi-  
cate, 4 MTs., Rs. 25,178.

**1-BROMO 3-CHLORO PRO-  
PANE:** From FRG: Kantilal Manilal &  
Co., 2,500 Kgs., Rs. 1,69,141.

**BUTYL PEROXIDE TECH.:** From  
FRG: Bindal Agro Chem Ltd., 1,000  
Kgs., Rs. 79,744.

**BUTACHLOR TECH.:** From USA:  
Herbicides India Ltd., 34,920 Lbs.,  
Rs. 7,30,838; Hindustan Pulverising  
Mills, 31.68 MTs., Rs. 14,83,656;  
Northern Minerals Ltd., 15,840 Kgs.,  
Rs. 7,41,828.

**BUTACHLOR TECH. 92% MIN.:**  
From USA: Omega Agro Pvt. Ltd.,

58,100 Kgs., Rs. 29,67,312; Vithai  
Abrichem Inds. Ltd., 34,920 Lbs.,  
Rs. 7,41,828.

**CALCIUM CARBONATE:** From  
UK: Glindia Limited, 2,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 34,602.

**CALCIUM OXIDE:** From Nether-  
lands: B.M. Thakker & Co. Pvt. Ltd.,  
1,000 Kgs., Rs. 11,168.

**CARBOFURAN TECH. (MIN.  
75%):** From Japan: Pesticides India,  
12,400 Kgs., Rs. 20,48,832.

**CARBON BLACK:** From FRG:  
Asian Paints India Ltd., 600 Kgs.,  
Rs. 26,945; C.J. Shah & Co., 3,000  
Kgs., Rs. 73,209; From USA: Gestet-  
ner Ltd., 550 Lbs., Rs. 19,308.

**CINNAMIC ALCOHOL:** From  
FRG: The Tata Oil Mills Co. Ltd., 400  
Kgs., Rs. 46,168.

**CITRIC ACID MONOHYDRATE:**  
From China: Shyam Overseas Corpn.,  
17,500 Kgs., Rs. 3,02,920.

**CYANO PYRAZINE:** From Japan:  
Jebco Pharma Pvt. Ltd., 4,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 23,09,546.

**2-CYANO PYRAZINE 99%  
PURITY:** From Japan: Nirlac Chemi-  
cals, 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 5,79,297.

**CYSTEAMINE HYDROCHLO-  
RIDE:** From Japan: Glindia Limited,  
2,000 Kgs., Rs. 3,07,482.

**CYANURIC CHLORIDE:** From  
FRG: C.J. Shah & Co., 12,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 5,54,009; From Belgium: Ajanta  
Chemicals, 500 Kgs., Rs. 23,084;  
Akash Dye Chem, 1,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 46,167; Amardeep Dye Chem,  
2,000 Kgs., Rs. 92,335; Anil Inds.,  
2,000 Kgs., Rs. 92,335; Arun Dyestuff  
Inds., 500 Kgs., Rs. 23,084; Ashutash  
Organics, 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 46,167; Atic  
Inds., 22,000 Kgs., Rs. 10,15,684; Atul  
Products Ltd., 2,000 Kgs., Rs. 92,335;  
Ekta Enterprises, 500 Kgs., Rs. 23,084;  
Galaxy Dyes, 500 Kgs., Rs. 23,084;  
Gautam Chemical Inds., 1,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 46,167; Khyate Chemical Inds.,  
1,000 Kgs., Rs. 46,167; Laxmi Chemi-



cals, 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 46,167; M.M. Industries, 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 46,167; Nancy Dyes & Intermediates, 500 Kgs., Rs. 23,084; Paramount Minerals and Chem. Ltd., 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 46,167; Rajasthan Dyes & Pigments, 500 Kgs., Rs. 23,084; Rajsons, 500 Kgs., Rs. 23,084; S.B. Vora & Co., 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 46,167; Shreeji Industries, 500 Kgs., Rs. 23,084; Shreenathaji Chemical Inds., 600 Kgs., Rs. 23,084; Shyam Dyes Chemical Inds., 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 46,169; Sweta Industries, 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 46,167; Synorg Dyechem, 500 Kgs., Rs. 23,084; Tex Dyes Inds., 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 46,167; Umesh Inds., 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 46,167; Vallabh Dyechem, 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 46,167; From Belgium: Whitex Chemicals, 500 Kgs., Rs. 23,084.

**D(-) ALPHA P-HYDROXY PHENYL BASE:** From Italy: Kopran Chemical Co., Ltd., 2,000 Kgs., Rs. 8,65,482.

**D CAMPHOR SULFONIC ACID:** From Taiwan: Wockhardt Ltd., 1,000

Kgs., Rs. 1,84,898.

**D(-) PARA HYDROXY PHENYL GLYCINE METHYL POTASSIUM SALT:** From Singapore: Ranbaxy Laboratories, 4,000 Kgs., Rs. 12,46,294.

**D(+) TARTARIC ACID:** From Argentina: Themis Chemicals Ltd., 18,000 Kgs., Rs. 7,93,447.

**DESMODUR L 75:** From FRG: New Vinod Silk Mills Pvt. Ltd., 240 Kgs., Rs. 12,692.

**DESMODUR T 80:** From Belgium: Juhi Jain Traders Pvt. Ltd., 13,500 Kgs., Rs. 4,38,022.

**DL-(N)-BUTYL TIN DICHLORIDE:** From FRG: Gandhi Parekh Invest. Corp. Ltd., 2,000 Kgs., Rs. 2,37,552.

**DICHLORO ACETYL CHLORIDE:** From FRG: Camlin Ltd., 2,000 Kgs., Rs. 73,888.

**DICHLORO AMINO DIPHENYL ETHER:** From France: Progressive Dyestuff, 161 Kgs., Rs. 27,361.

**2,4 DICHLORO BENZYL CLORIDE:** From FRG: Jai Pvt. Ltd., Kgs., Rs. 2,25,381.

**3,4 DICHLORO NITROZENE:** From FRG: Sudarshan Chemical Inds., 7,000 Kgs., Rs. 3,29,

**DICYANDIAMIDE:** From Himachem Laboratories, 16,000 Rs. 4,24,405.

**DIETHYL ANILINE:** From Sudarshan Chemical Inds., 3,040 Rs. 1,77,506.

**DIETHYL SULPHATE:** Japan: Ahmedabad Chemical Pvt. 15,640 Kgs., Rs. 3,31,888.

**DIHYDRO ISOJASMON:** From Netherlands: Industrial Products Ltd., 50 Kgs., Rs. 29,780.

**1,2 DIHYDRO 2 OXYQUINOLINE:** From Hungary: Sandoz 21,600 Kgs., Rs. 35,89,608.

**2,4 DIHYDROXY QUINONE:** From FRG: Rathi Dyechem Pvt. 19.8 Kgs., Rs. 7,330.

**DIMETHYL ACETAMIDE:** FRG: Morepen Lab Ltd., 1,520 Rs. 44,019; From Turkey: L. Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd., 16,000 Rs. 3,58,026.

**DIMETHYL CARBONATE:** France: Ganesh Medicament Pvt. 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 2,86,225.

**DIMETHYL FORMAMIDE:** Japan: Rallis India Ltd., 15,200 Rs. 2,77,220.

**DIMETHYL OCTANOL:** From The Tata Oil Mills Co. Ltd., 2,380 Rs. 3,05,602.

**DIMETHYL SULPHOXIDE:** Japan: Parag Pharmaceuticals 1,980 Kgs., Rs. 57,647.

**DIOCTYL TIN OXIDE:** From Gandhi Parekh Invest. Corp. 1,020 Kgs., Rs. 1,64,816.

**1,4 DIOXANE:** From Japan: S. Chem Private Limited, 1,000 Rs. 35,833.

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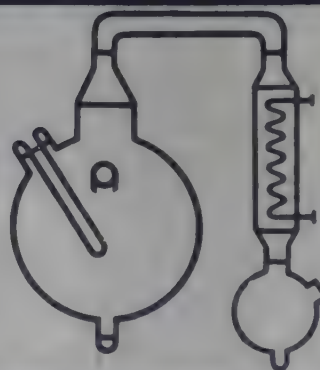
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**PHENYL GUANIDINE:** From C.L. Jain & Co., 4,220 Kgs., Rs. 65,624.

**PHENYL ISIDECYL PHOS-**  
**E:** From France: Dura Chemical  
ration Private Limited, 14,400  
Rs. 4,45,720.

**ULSIFYING WAX:** From UK:  
ce Silicones Pvt. Ltd., 1,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 1,793.

**OXY RESIN:** From Taiwan:  
ic Components, 300 Kgs.,  
Rs. 1,030.

**HOXY METHYLENE DIE-**  
**MALONATE:** From France: E.  
(India) Ltd., 7,020 Kgs.,  
Rs. 82,559; From FRG: BEC  
icals Pvt. Ltd., 4,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 30,863.

**HYL AMYL ALCOHOL:** From  
Lubrizol India Ltd., 66,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 26,834.

**HYLENE GLYCOL DIME-**  
**TRYLATE:** From USA: Ion  
nge (India) Ltd., 3,840 Lbs.  
Rs. 94,461.

**THYL HEXANOIC ACID:** From  
Kopran Chemical Co. Ltd., 2,035  
Rs. 43,559.

**HYL VANILLIN:** From Japan:  
Industrial Enterprises, 500 Kgs.,  
Rs. 34,899.

**GENOL:** From Singapore: The  
Oil Mills Co. Ltd., 2,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 60,508.

**RFURYL ALCOHOL:** From  
m: Alchemi Pvt. Ltd., 6,960 Kgs.,  
Rs. 11,665.

**MMA FERRIC OXIDE:** From  
Jai Electronic Industries Private  
Ltd., 22,000 Kgs., Rs. 10,69,497.

**MMA PICOLIN:** From Japan:  
Chemicals & Products, 3,800  
Rs. 1,74,607.

**RANIUM OIL BOURBON D.B:**  
France: Gopal Zarda Udyog, 500  
Rs. 2,41,005.

**GLUE GR 7007:** From Taiwan:  
Asmaco Plastic Inds., 57,420 Kgs.,  
Rs. 9,98,508.

**GLYCERYL TRIACETIN:** From  
UK: Precision Rubber Inds., 2,880 Kgs.,  
Rs. 1,09,773.

**GUAIACOL:** From Italy: Syntho-  
pharm, 2,000 Kgs., Rs. 1,98,274.

**GUM ROSIN 'N' GRADE:** From  
Hong Kong: Sujana Ind. Prod. Mark, 18  
MTs., Rs. 1,43,804.

**GUM ROSIN WG:** From Indonesia:  
Resins & Plastics Ltd., 36,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 2,91,545.

**HYDRAZINE HYDRATE 100%:**  
From USSR: Hindustan Ciba Geigy  
Ltd., 2,400 Kgs., Rs. 1,05,369.

**HYDROGEN PEROXIDE 50%:**  
From Australia: Excel Inds. Ltd., 40,950  
Kgs., Rs. 4,44,630.

**3 HYDROXY QUINOLINE**  
**4-CARBOXYLIC ACID:** From FRG:  
Chemiequip Ltd., 240 MTs.,  
Rs. 83,854.

**HYDROXYLAMINE HYDROCH-**  
**LORIDE:** From FRG: Kantilal Manilal  
& Co., 500 Kgs., Rs. 43,020.

**IMINO DI-ACETIC ACID:** From  
Japan: Excel Inds. Ltd., 43,200 Kgs.,  
Rs. 43,75,620.

**IMPACT MODIFIER:** From Japan:  
The Bharat Vijay Mills Ltd., 1 MT.,  
Rs. 43,274.

**IODINE CRUDE:** From Japan: The  
Atul Products Ltd., 1,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 3,14,721; Eskay Fine Chemicals,  
2,000 Kgs., Rs. 6,54,620; Lub Chem,  
1,000 Kgs., Rs. 3,11,574; Santosh  
Pharmaceuticals, 1 MT., Rs. 3,08,112.

**IODINE CRUDE 99.5%:** From  
China: Auro Impex Pvt. Ltd., 5,000  
Kgs., Rs. 15,34,264.

**ISOBORNYL CYCLO HEXANOL:**  
From France: Hindustan Lever Ltd.,  
2,000 Kgs., Rs. 3,49,340; Tata Oil Mills  
Co. Ltd., 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 1,79,391.

**ISOBORNYL METHOXY CYCLO**  
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Perfumes Limited, 540 Kgs.,  
Rs. 98,995.

ISOCYANATE: From Italy: Mee-  
nakshi Polymers Pvt. Ltd., 5,405 Kgs.,  
Rs. 2,11,655; From Japan: Dr. Beck &  
Co. India Ltd., 17,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 7,21,482.

ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL: From  
UK: Indian Shaving Products Ltd., 756  
Kgs., Rs. 17,820.

L-LYSINE MONO HCl: From  
Japan: Bombay Pharma Products, 2,000  
Kgs., Rs. 1,31,082.

L-LYSINE HCl: From Japan: Chem-  
icals (India), 2,000 Kgs., Rs. 1,41,624.

LACTIC ACID: From China: Paresh  
Chemical Corpn., 5,675 Kgs.,  
Rs. 1,06,979.

LILIAL: From Switzerland: The Tata  
Oil Mills Co. Ltd., 2,040 Kgs.,  
Rs. 7,63,680.

LINALOOL: From USA: Oriental  
Aromatics, 2,904 Kgs., Rs. 3,88,248.

LITHIUM CARBONATE IP/USP:  
From Yugoslavia: E. Merck (India)  
Ltd., 300 Kgs., Rs. 63,731.

MERCURY: From Finland: Grasim  
Inds. Ltd., 260 Nos., Rs. 12,06,955.

METHYL CHLOROFORMATE:  
From Hungary: Rokadia Chemicals  
Company Private Limited, 6,200 Kgs.,  
Rs. 1,26,832.

METHYL DIHYDORJASMO-  
NATE: From Japan: Hindustan Lever  
Ltd., 1,080 Kgs., Rs. 4,24,873.

METHYL METHACRYLATE  
MONOMER: From UK: Dental Pro-  
ducts of India Ltd., 1,850 Kgs.,  
Rs. 65,501.

METHOXY METHYLENE  
MALONIC ACID ESTER: From FRG:  
IPCA Labs Pvt. Ltd., 6,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 11,70,761.

3-METHYL THIOPHENE: From  
UK: Peak Agencies Pvt. Ltd., 1,200  
Kgs., Rs. 5,22,267.

MORPHOLINE: From UK: Polyol-  
efins Inds. Ltd., 32.76 MTs.,  
Rs. 10,49,063.

MUSK KETONE: From Switzer-  
land: Gupta & Co. (P) Ltd., 250 Kgs.,  
Rs. 1,14,736.

N-N DIMETHYL M-TOLUAMIDE:  
From USA: Dr. Sabharwal's Bulk  
Drugs Ltd., 204 Kgs., Rs. 27,436.

N-METHYL PIPERAZINE: From  
FRG: Chemipharm Chemical &  
Pharm., 900 Kgs., Rs. 1,46,317.

NAPHTHENIC ACID: From Bel-  
gium: Indrol Lubricants Specialities,  
14,440 Kgs., Rs. 2,17,355; From FRG:  
Modern Chemicals & Plastics, 5,070  
Kgs., Rs. 70,646; Tech Bright Chem-  
ical Inds. Pvt. Ltd., 5,850 Kgs.,  
Rs. 76,849.

NICKEL CATALYST: From Neth-  
erlands: The Vegetable Vitamin F  
Co., 15,000 Kgs., Rs. 19,35,533.

5-NITRO 2-FURFURALDEH  
DIACETATE: From Netherl  
Curefast Drugs & Intermediates,  
Kgs., Rs. 1,28,406.

OCTAMETHYL CYCLO TE  
SILOXANE: From UK: Reliance  
cones Pvt. Ltd., 27,360  
Rs. 12,48,748.

OIL PEPPERMINT PIPER  
From France: Balsara Hygiene Pr  
Ltd., 2,000 Kgs., Rs. 9,29,236.

ORGANIC SURFACE AC  
AGENT: From USA: Weston C  
nents Ltd., 1,043 Kgs., Rs. 70,000.

PARA CHLORO META CR  
From FRG: Rallis India Ltd., 20  
Rs. 22,763.

PARA CHLORO TOL  
PURE: From FRG: Arlabs Ltd.,  
Kgs., Rs. 4,53,280.

PARA CHLORO TOLUENE  
Japan: Searle India Ltd., 15,00  
Rs. 4,12,078; From USA: Rall  
Ltd., 24,494 Kgs., Rs. 6,64,38

PARAFORMALDEHYDE  
PRILLS: From Spain: Shriji Ch  
5,000 Kgs., Rs. 39,340; Su  
Chemical Inds. Ltd., 10,00  
Rs. 94,416; Gupta Trading Co.  
Kgs., Rs. 1,58,619; Jadavji  
18,000 Kgs., Rs. 1,64,284.

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s, 5,000 Kgs., Rs. 39,340.

**PARA OCTYL PHENOL:** From  
an: Atsuan Chemical Corpn., 2,000  
s., Rs. 50,355; Indian Plastics Ltd.,  
00 Kgs., Rs. 1,51,066; United Pes-  
em & Nonionics Pvt. Ltd., 2,000  
s., Rs. 50,355.

**PARA TERTIARY BUTYL  
ENOL:** From Japan: Indian Plastics  
., 4,000 Kgs., Rs. 88,122.

**PATCHOULI OIL:** From Indonesia:  
nta Chemical Company, 750 Kgs.,  
1,41,624.

**PERCHLORO ETHYLENE:** From  
G: Anshul Chemicals Pvt. Ltd.,  
760 Kgs., Rs. 1,66,793; DSP Air  
ia, 18,762 Kgs., Rs. 2,40,760.

**PHENYL XYLYL ETHANE:** From  
an: Hind Condensor Ltd., 3,000  
s., Rs. 94,416.

**PIVALOYL CHLORIDE:** From  
A: Kaytee Corpn., 1,598 Kgs.,  
1,00,220.

**POLYETHER POLYOL:** From  
y: Sunpra Ener & Rec. Engg. Pvt.  
L., 4,410 Kgs., Rs. 1,31,852.

**POLYVINYL ALCOHOL:** From  
an: Industrial Dispersions, 1,000  
s., Rs. 47,208; Manar Size Pvt. Ltd.,  
00 Kgs., Rs. 1,43,985; Sachin Sizers  
L. Ltd., 4,000 Kgs., Rs. 2,01,422;

Vareli Textiles Inds. Ltd., 3 MTs.,  
Rs. 1,41,624.

**POLYVINYL PYROLIDONE:**  
From USA: Abbott Labs I Ltd., 1,000  
Kgs., Rs. 1,48,863.

**POTASSIUM CARBONATE:** From  
Japan: G. Amphray Laboratories,  
17,500 Kgs., Rs. 1,73,490.

**POTASSIUM CHLORATE:** From  
Sweden: Wimco Ltd., 98,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 64,332.

**POTASSIUM CRYOLITE:** From  
FRG: Advani-Oerlikon Ltd., 500 Kgs.,  
Rs. 39,784.

**PROPIONIC ACID:** From FRG:  
Calpro, 16,380 Kgs., Rs. 1,99,368.

**PROPIONIC ANHYDRIDE:** From  
Japan: Alembic Chemicals Works Co.  
Ltd., 3,040 Kgs., Rs. 1,37,508; Chem-  
ifine, 1,080 Kgs., Rs. 45,020; Kiran  
Chemicals, 1,080 Kgs., Rs. 45,149.

**PROPYLENE DIAMINE:** From  
Japan: Jai Electronic Inds. Pvt. Ltd., 12  
Kgs., Rs. 10,462.

**PROPYLENE OXIDE CONDEN-  
SATE OF ETHYLENE GLYCOL:**  
From UK: Kubo Combustion Effici-  
ency Chemicals, 12,160 Kgs.,  
Rs. 3,66,560.

**PROPYLENE GLYCOL USP:** From  
Japan: Rallis India Ltd., 16,170 Kgs.,  
Rs. 3,43,500; From USA: American  
Dry Fruit Stores, 67,940 Kgs.,

Rs. 13,14,728; Revex Plasticisers Pvt.  
Ltd., 16,770 Kgs., Rs. 3,43,062; From  
Singapore: Rallis India Ltd., 50,310  
Kgs., Rs. 9,88,998.

**RUBBER CHEMICALS:** From  
Korea: Govind Rubber Ltd., 5,600  
Kgs., Rs. 2,07,086.

**SILICON CARBIDE GRAINS:**  
From FRG: Diamond Carbon & Graph-  
ite Product, 18,000 Kgs., Rs. 3,26,810.

**SILICONE OIL:** From FDR: Hico  
Products Ltd., 5,000 Kgs., Rs. 1,81,350.

**SILICONE RESIN:** From USA:  
Garware Plastics & Pulverising Ltd.,  
485 Kgs., Rs. 50,006.

**STANNOUS OCTOATE:** From  
Switzerland: Bharat Petro Foam Co.  
Pvt. Ltd., 500 Kgs., Rs. 77,296.

**SULPHOL LIQUID:** From UK: SF  
Chemical Inds. Pvt. Ltd., 25,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 1,01,370.

**SYNTHETIC RED OXIDE:** From  
FRG: IEL Ltd., 5,000 Kgs.,  
Rs. 1,03,835.

**TARTARIC ACID:** From Italy:  
Vimpex Dye Chem Pvt. Ltd., 20 Kgs.,  
Rs. 4,32,325.

**TERTIARY BUTYL HYDRO-  
QUINONE:** From UK: Bombay Oil  
Inds., 150 Kgs., Rs. 56,769.

**TERTIARY BUTYL PERBENZO-  
ATE:** From FRG: BASF India Ltd.,



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1,500 Kgs., Rs. 1,21,504.

**TETRA N-BUTYL TIN:** From FRG: Aryavart Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., 600 Kgs., Rs. 78,065.

**THIO ACETIC ACID:** From FRG: Wockhardt Ltd., 600 Kgs., Rs. 1,19,615.

**TITANIUM DIOXIDE:** From FRG: The Bombay Burmah Trading Corpn., 2,000 Kgs., Rs. 94,117; Jagatjit Cotton Text. Mills Ltd., 17,500 Kgs., Rs. 7,44,827.

**2,3,6 TRIMETHYL PHENOL:** From FRG: E. Merck India Ltd., 4,940 Kgs., Rs. 4,39,548.

**TRIMETHYLOL ETHANE:** From Japan: Asian Paints India Ltd., 5,000 Kgs., Rs. 2,13,223.

**3,4,5 TRIMETHOXY BENZAL-DEHYDE:** From China: Med Concepta Lab., 500 Kgs., Rs. 1,50,279; Shaba Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 3,14,721.

**THIOOCTYL TRIMELLITATE:** From UK: Cable Corporation of India Ltd., 2,000 Kgs., Rs. 78,395.

**XYLIDINE:** From Switzerland: Formokem India Corpn., 1 MT., Rs. 69,083.

**VANILLIN:** From France: Hindustan Lever Ltd., 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 2,50,203.

**ZIRCONIUM OXIDE:** From France:

**Keramic Colours,** 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 52,797.

### DRUG MATERIALS IMPORTED BOMBAY (From 1.5.89 to 3.5.89)

**AMINOPHYLLINE BP 80:** From China: Tata Exports Ltd., 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 1,35,653.

**CALCIUM D PANTOTHENATE:** From Japan: Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd., 800 Kgs., Rs. 1,88,833.

**FURAZOLIDONE BP 80:** From China: Caplet Pharmaceuticals, 2,500 Kgs., Rs. 2,70,943; K. Mansukhlal & Co., 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 1,13,859.

**NOVOLDIAMINE:** From FRG: E. Merck I. Ltd., 1,320 Kgs., Rs. 4,29,468.

**PEPSIN IP/BP:** From FRG: Aristo Pharmaceuticals Ltd., 1,000 Kgs., Rs. 1,30,609.

**PHENINRAMINE TARTRATE BP:** From USA: Geoffrey Manners & Co. Ltd., 300 Kgs., Rs. 4,22,035.

**SODIUM STARCH GLYCOLATE BP/USP:** From Hungary: Glindia Ltd., 200 Kgs., Rs. 18,883.

**SORBIC ACID USP:** From Japan: Kantilal Manilal & Co., 300 Kgs., Rs. 29,977.

**SULPHADIAZINE BP 80:** From China: Caplet Pharmaceuticals, 2,000 Kgs., Rs. 4,27,391.

**THEOPHYLLINE ANHYDROUS BP 80:** From China: Cipla Ltd., 2,000 Kgs., Rs. 45,005.

### DYE MATERIALS IMPORTED BOMBAY (From 1.5.89 to 3.5.89)

**FORON BRILLIANT BLUE:** From Switzerland: S.F. Dyes, 325 Kgs., Rs. 1,38,166.

**G. SALT:** From Japan: Yogesh Dye stuff Products Pvt. Ltd., 1 MT., Rs. 1,60,041.

**OPTICAL WHITENING AGENT:** From FRG: Shri Amarsinghji Mills, Co., Rs. 28,834.

**PALANIL BLUE 5 GE:** From Japan: Garden Silk Mills Ltd., 2,400 MT., Rs. 11,27,158.

**RANGOLITE:** From FRG: J. Bindal Silk Mills Pvt. Ltd., 4,000 Kgs., Rs. 2,93,793.

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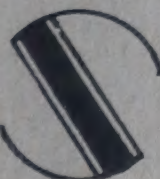
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Edited by R. Raghavan and published by N.R. Rajagopalan on behalf of owners, Sevak Publications, 306, Shri Hanuman Industrial Estate, Wadala, Bombay-400 031. Madras Office : 27, Begum Sahib 3rd Street, 1st Floor, Mount Road, Madras 600 002. Phone : C/o 831808 and printed by N.R. Rajagopalan at Sevak Publications, 25, North Mada Street, Thiruvannamur, Madras 600 041. Phone : 419265. Registered with the Registrar of Newspapers for India vide No. R.N. 1972/57.



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